DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 387 937 EA 027 137

TITLE	1994-95 State Issues Report.
INSTITUTION	Education Commission of the States, Denver, Colo.
PUB DATE	Sep 95
NOTE	74p.
AVAILABLE FROM	ECS Distribution Center, 707 17th Street, Suite 2700, Denver, CO 80202-3427 (Stock No. IS-95-1; $12.50 plus postage and handling; discounts available for bulk orders of single publications).
PUB TYPE	Reports - Descriptive (141)
EDRS PRICE	MF01/PC03 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	Discipline Policy; Dropout Prevention; Educational Assessment; Educational Finance; *Educational Legislation; Elementary Secondary Education; Governance; School Choice; *State Action; *State Legislation; *State Programs

ABSTRACT

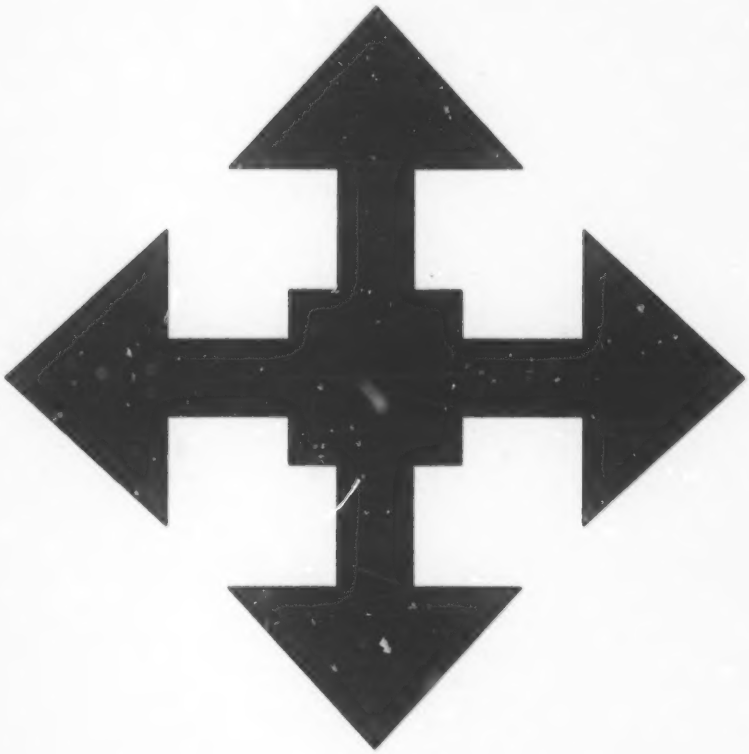
This report presents data on the status of state legislation in many areas of education. Data were collected from legislators, legislative staff, state newsletters, "StateNet," school board/teacher associations, and various media. Not all of the listed legislation was enacted. Legislation pertaining to the following topics was included: accountability/accreditation, administrator/principal, adult education, alternative education, articulation, assessment/testing, at-risk youth/dropout prevention, attendance, charter schools, choice, collective bargaining, community service/volunteerism, counseling/guidance, curriculum, discipline, early childhood education, education excellence/reform, enrollment, equity, extended day, finance, governance, grading practices, immigrants, incentives/sanctions, instruction methods, interagency collaboration, literacy, magnet schools, nonpublic schools, outcomes-based education, parent/family, postsecondary, privatization, professional development, religion, restructured schools, safety/crime/violence, scheduling, school facilities, school improvement, secondary education, sexual harassment, site-based management, social issues, special education, standards, student rights, superintendent, systemic change, teacher certification, teacher compensation, teacher contracts, teacher staff development/inservice, technology, tenure, textbooks, tuition, vocational education, vouchers, and workforce preparation/vocational education. (LMI)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****

EA

ED 387 937

1994-95 STATE ISSUES REPORT



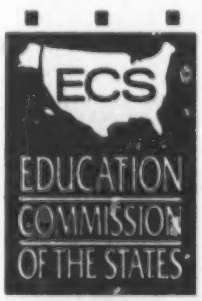
ECS Information Clearinghouse

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

✓ This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.

☐ Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.

• Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy.



PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

S. F. Walker

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

EA 027 137

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

1994-95 STATE ISSUES REPORT

ECS Information Clearinghouse

Education Commission of the States
707 17th Street, Suite 2700
Denver, Colorado 80202-3427
Telephone 303-299-3600
FAX 303-296-8332
e-mail: ecs@ecs.org

September 1995

Copies of this book are available for $12.50 plus postage and handling from the ECS Distribution Center, 707 17th Street, Suite 2700, Denver, Colorado 80202-3427, 303-299-3692. Ask for No. IS-95-1. ECS accepts prepaid orders and honors organization purchase orders; **no credit cards**. All sales are final.

© Copyright 1995 by the Education Commission of the States (ECS). All rights reserved.

The Education Commission of the States is a nonprofit, nationwide interstate compact formed in 1965. The primary purpose of the commission is to help governors, state legislators, state education officials and others develop policies to improve the quality of education at all levels.

Forty-nine states, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands are members. The ECS offices are at 707 17th Street, Suite 2700, Denver, Colorado 80202-3427.

It is ECS policy to take affirmative action to prevent discrimination in its policies, programs and employment practices.

Postage and handling charges: Up to $10.00, $3.00; $10.01-$25.00, $4.25; $25.01-$50.00, $5.75; $50.01-$75.00, $8.50; $75.01-$100.00, $10.00; over $101.00, $12.00.

Generous discounts are available for bulk orders of single publications. They are: 10-24 copies, 10% discount; 25-49 copies, 20% discount; and 50+ copies, 30% discount.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction 1
Accountability/Accreditation 2
Administrator/Principal 3
Adult Education 4
Alternative Education 4
Articulation 7
Assessment/Testing 7
At-Risk Youth/Dropout Prevention 9
Attendance 9
Charter Schools 12
Choice 17
Collective Bargaining 21
Community Service/Volunteerism 21
Counseling/Guidance 21
Curriculum 21
Discipline 25
Early Childhood Education 30
Education Excellence/Reform 31
Enrollment 32
Equity 32
Extended Day 32
Finance 32
Governance 36
Grading Practices 38
Immigrants 39
Incentives/Sanctions 39
Instruction Methods 40
Interagency Collaboration 41
Literacy 42
Magnet Schools 42
Nonpublic Schools 42
Outcomes-Based Education 42
Parent/Family 42
Postsecondary 44
Privatization 46
Professional Development 46
Religion 46
Restructured Schools 47
Safety/Crime/Violence 47
Scheduling 54
School Facilities 54
School Improvement 54
Secondary Education 54
Sexual Harassment 55
Site-Based Management 56
Social Issues 56
Special Education 56
Standards 58
Student Rights 58
Superintendent 59
Systemic Change 59
Teacher Certification 59
Teacher Compensation 60
Teacher Contracts 61
Teacher Staff Development/ Inservice 62
Technology 63
Tenure 64
Textbooks 64
Tuition 65
Vocational Education 65
Vouchers 65
Workforce Preparation/Vocational Education 68

INTRODUCTION

Most of the items in this *State Issues Report* cover the preK-12 level. They have been collected from legislators, legislative staff, state newsletters, *StateNet*, school board/teacher associations and various media. ECS staff have made every attempt to validate all information.

Essentially, the information in this report is raw data — rapidly processed to be released in printed form at the earliest possible date. Editing has been kept to a minimum; many items appear in form similar to the one in which they were received. Not all legislation listed here was enacted; some bills or programs were included because we considered them significant. A few older records were included to provide perspective about the importance/longevity of particular issues.

This report was compiled by the ECS Clearinghouse, the centralized resource and research arm of the commission. ECS policy experts and staff are available to assist in the search for state and legislative information, topical research and publications. The Clearinghouse also is linked to a wide range of education-related organizations. If your question deals with education, Clearinghouse staff can provide the answer — or at lease point you in the right direction.

The Clearinghouse functions under the "24-hour rule." Staff will respond with an answer — or al least with a promise as to when you can expect an answer — within 24 hours. Prompt and courteous service are hallmarks of the ECS Clearinghouse.

ISSUES REPORT 1994-95

KEY:

Author: Indicates either the author of a legislative bill.
Board Policy: Refers to measure passed by state education board.
Died: Not voted on by one or both houses of legislature.
Effective Date: Date of implementation
Enacted: Passed by the legislature and signed by the governor.
Killed: Voted down by one or both houses of legislature.
Legis./Code: Indicates legislation or state education statute.
Passed: Passed by both houses of the legislature but no governor signature; or approved by the state board.
Pending: Written as legislation or board policy but no final action taken.
Program: Indicates program under way or approved for state schools.
Proposed: Presented by governor, legislative body or other entity such as the state board of education.
Vetoed: Killed by governor.

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
ACCOUNTABILITY/ACCREDITATION (also see ASSESSMENT/TESTING and STANDARDS)			
AL	LEGIS./CODE Proposed June '95	Requires implementation of nationally normed test to assess student achievement in grades 3-11; requires funds to be budgeted for tutorial assistance programs at each school for students identified on normed-reference tests as being one or more grade levels below national norm. Title: **HB 466/SB 391 - Nationally Normed Test** Source: Legislative Fiscal Office	
HI	LEGIS./CODE Passed 1995	Transfers supervision of Hawaii's private schools from state education department to a board of independent schools. Title: **Accreditation** Source: Hawaii Department of Education	
KS	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Eliminated statutory listing of 10 outcomes of the school accreditation system (outcomes are determined by the state board of education); removed mandate for state assessments in "speaking" and "listening"; made permanent the school-site council mandate; required the state board by January 1, 1997, to prepare state-level and building-level school performance "report cards"; directed Kansas Inc., in 1997, to oversee study of school districts that entered the school performance accreditation program in 1991-92 to determine extent to which pupil academic performance has changed under this system and to explain factors that have contributed materially to such change; and made several other technical changes. Title: **HB 2173 - Elementary and Secondary** Source: Kansas Legislative Research Department	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
ND	LEGIS./CODE Enacted March '95	Relates to student performance standards and assessments and school district policies and plans for participatory school decisionmaking. Title: **HB 1270 - Performance Standards and Assessments** Author: Grosz Source: *StateNet*	
NM	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Gives school districts flexibility to determine local priorities and make decisions necessary to improve student performance. Process allows for better accountability at all levels; gives State Department of Education opportunity to better administer public education policy; allows school districts to demonstrate how education dollars are being spent to improve student performance; and allows legislature to evaluate how all components of public school system are working. Title: **Education Appropriation Act** Source: Legislative Education Study Committee	
NM	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Allows participation on an athletic team or in an athletic sport during the school day to count toward fulfillment of the physical education requirement; requires state competency examinations (which students must pass to receive high school diplomas) to include a section on the U.S. and state Constitutions. Title: **Changes in Graduation Requirements** Source: Legislative Education Study Committee	
TX	LEGIS./CODE Enacted 1993	Sets public education goals; state board to establish essential skills and knowledge to achieve goals; state board to create and implement statewide assessment program that is primarily performance-based to ensure school accountability for student achievement of goals (35.022). The central education agency shall adopt appropriate criterion-referenced assessment instruments to assess reading, writing, social studies, science, math and any other subjects set by state board; central education agency shall also adopt secondary exit-level assessments (35.023); each board of trustees shall publish annual report describing performance of the district and each school (35.042); central education agency will prepare report card for each campus. Title: **Chapter 35 - Public School System Accountability** Source: State Education Code	05/31/93
ADMINISTRATOR/PRINCIPAL (also see SUPERINTENDENT)			
WI	LEGIS./CODE Proposed April '95	Repeals state requirement that Milwaukee County teachers and principals be granted tenure following their third consecutive year of employment. As passed by the Senate, the bill includes an amendment that allows Milwaukee County teachers who lack just-cause provisions in their contracts to negotiate those provisions. The amendment prohibits Milwaukee County districts from claiming just-cause provisions are economic issues in their next contract deliberations. Title: **SB 37 - Tenure 95** Source: Wisconsin Association of School Boards, *Legislative Alert*, April 6, 1995	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
		ADULT EDUCATION	
AR	LEGIS./CODE Enacted March '95	Appropriates funds to the Department of Higher Education for grants for adult literacy programs at Cossatot Technical College, Northwest Arkansas Community College and Westark Community College. Title: **HB 2085 - Funding for Adult Literacy Programs** Author: Thicksten Source: *StateNet*	
NM	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Creates Adult Basic Education Fund; requires adoption of objective formula to provide for equitable distribution of money in that fund. Title: **HB 358 - Adult Education** Author: Knowles Source: *StateNet*	
		ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION (also see DISCIPLINE)	
AR	LEGIS./CODE Enacted March '95	Clarifies reporting requirements concerning alternative learning environments in public schools. Title: **HB 1691 - Reporting on Alternative Learning Environments** Author: Baker Source: *StateNet*	
CO	LEGIS./CODE Proposed April '95	Enables districts to create alternative schools to teach expelled or suspended K-12 students. Council staff is working with variety of disabled community members concerned about students with disabilities, who may be placed in an alternative school if disruptive activities are determined not due to a student's disability. Students without identified disability also may be placed in such a school. HB 1317 places such students at-risk for modeling disruptive behavior, and having teachers that are not appropriately trained for teaching students with disabilities. Title: **HB 1317 - Alternative Schools** Source: Colorado Developmental Disabilities Planning Council, *Between the Lines*, April 1995	
DE	LEGIS./CODE Enacted 1994	Provides funding to districts in three areas: (1) alternative schools for expelled and disruptive youth; (2) intervention grants for middle and high schools; and (3) prevention grants, targeted at younger students (conflict resolution, behavior management, reducing risk of failure, etc.). Title: **HB 247 - Alternative Schools, Intervention Grants, Prevention Grants**	
FL	LEGIS./CODE Proposed June '95	Provides for development of information access and delivery system to enable agencies to share information needed to provide joint services to disruptive, violent, and delinquent youth; revises provisions relating to minimum risk nonresidential programs for children; authorizes alternative school board policies for assignment of such students and notice that possession of firearm will result in school expulsion; also provides second-chance schools for youths. Title: **SB 1438 - Sharing Information on Disruptive Youth** Source: *StateNet*	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
GA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Authorizes creation of special school district for incarcerated youth; names commissioner of corrections as superintendent of these schools; provides for Board of Corrections to serve as board of education and establish education standards for such special school district. Title: **HB 436 - Educating Incarcerated Youth** Author: Dobbs Source: *StateNet*	
IN	LEGIS./CODE Pending 1995	Allows governing bodies of school corporations to establish alternative programs for disruptive students, defined as those having two or more suspensions in a school year. Permits alternative programs to be established by contract with private nonprofit or for-profit individuals or organizations. Title: **HB 1265 - Alternative Schools** Source: Indiana University Education Policy Center	07/01/95
MD	LEGIS./CODE Enacted June '95	Establishes Baltimore City Alternative Learning Center in the Baltimore City Public School System. A student may be transferred to the center if he or she: (1) assaults a teacher, teacher's aide, student teacher, professional or paraprofessional school employee or a student; (2) carries a deadly weapon onto school property; or (3) commits any other act that would be a crime if committed by an adult. Center programs must include elementary and secondary education programs, special education programs that fulfill the social and emotional needs of students and require the participation of students' parents or guardians; and vocational and rehabilitative training programs. Purpose of the bill is to provide disruptive students with the services they need and protect school staff and students. Title: **HB 970, Chapter 632 - Baltimore City Alternative Learning Center** Source: Department of Legislative Reference	
MO	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Requires public school districts to suspend for at least one year any student who brings firearm to school. Chief officers of school districts permitted to modify suspensions on case-by-case basis; school districts may offer alternative education programs to suspended students. Title: **HB 345 - Student Suspension** Source: House Research Division	
MS	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Provides standards for placing suspended students in alternative school programs. Title: **SB 2510 - Student Suspensions** Author: Turner Source: *StateNet*	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
NJ	PROGRAM Active October '94	Sends disruptive high school students to college instead of to detention halls. Three years ago, state opened non-traditional high schools in seven districts, most located on college campuses. In fall 1994, New Jersey's department of education earmarked $3 million in federal funds to begin 14 more alternative schools. By the end of the school year, there was to be one in each of the 21 districts. At-risk students receive extra support services, including one-on-one counseling, to help them deal with behavior problems. Each student's program is tailored specifically to his or her needs. There is an option to enroll in college courses. Title: "Up, Not Out - Handling Disruptive High School Students" Source: *Education Week*, October 12, 1994	10/01/94
PA	LEGIS./CODE Pending August '95	Provides school districts with opportunity to establish alternative education programs for students in grades 7-12. Districts would be permitted to remove disruptive students from their regular education program in favor of placement in alternative education program. HB 8 specifically exempts special education students from alternative education programs. School districts are to be reimbursed by the state for alternative education programs at a rate of $125 per pupil for each nine weeks of enrollment up to a maximum of $500 per year. The state will not provide funding for more than 2% of a district's average daily membership of students in grades 7-12. School districts starting a disruptive student program in the 1995-96 school year will be eligible for current year funding. Title: **HB 8 - Alternative Education** Source: Pennsylvania Association of School Administrators, *PASA Flyer*, February 1995, Vol. XXXVIII, No. VIII	
VA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Allows local school boards to determine alternative education placement of students who attend public schools or reside within school division, in accordance with federal and state laws and regulations. Authorizes school boards to place in alternative programs any student charged with offense or found guilty or not innocent of crime for which the court disposition must be disclosed to the division superintendent. (Became law without governor's signature.) Title: **HB 2150 - Alternative Education** Author: Diamonstein Source: *StateNet*	
VA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Authorizes local school boards to determine appropriate alternative education placement of students placed in alternative education by court order. Title: **Alternative Education Placement** Source: Virginia General Assembly 1995 Session Summary	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
		ARTICULATION (K-12/Postsecondary)	
AR	LEGIS./CODE Enacted March '95	Appropriates funds to the Department of Higher Education for expenses for reports of college achievement of high school graduates. Title: **SB 615 - Reporting College Achievement of High School Graduates** Author: Committee on Joint Budget Source: *StateNet*	
VA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Authorizes local school boards to establish transition programs to prepare students for college, employment or technical training. Title: **School to Work Transition** Source: Virginia General Assembly 1995 Session Summary	
		ASSESSMENT/TESTING (also see ACCOUNTABILITY)	
AL	LEGIS./CODE Proposed June '95	Requires implementation of a nationally normed test to assess student achievement in grades 3-11; requires comprehensive core curriculum for high schools, including four years each of English, mathematics, science and social studies; requires English, social studies, mathematics and science be taught each year in grades 1-8; requires every elementary school to teach phonics; requires funds to be budgeted for tutorial assistance programs at each school for students identified on normed-reference tests as being one or more grade levels below national norm; requires state assistance and intervention for schools identified as in need of assistance; requires implementation of new budgeting and financial reporting system; requires school-level accountability reports; includes restrictions on use of state-appropriated funding for instructional salaries and classroom instructional support; and requires development of a plan to reduce teacher paperwork. Title: **HB 466/SB 391 - Nationally Normed Test** Source: Legislative Fiscal Office	
AR	LEGIS./CODE Enacted March '95	Bill approved by the Arkansas Senate Education Committee would abolish the state's mandatory high school exit test. The committee voted four to two to delete the requirement that a student attain a minimum score on the test to graduate. The panel then voted to direct the state education department to halt development of the exam and gather more information to present after the legislative session is over. Title: "Arkansas Exit Exam" Source: *Education Week*, March 29, 1995	
IN	LEGIS./CODE Killed April '95	Controversial statewide testing program, the Indiana Performance Assessment for Students (IPASS), as well as its proposed replacement, the Indiana Academic Skills Test was killed by Senate committee. Governor Evan Bayh has backed IPASS since he signed it into law three years ago. A high school exit test, Gateway Exam, was also part of IPASS. Concerns raised included cost and fairness of the tests. Earlier, the House had voted to delay implementation of IPASS for one year with a two-year delay for the exit exam. Title: "Indiana Senate Panel Kills a Pair of Statewide Assessments" Source: *Education Week*, April 12, 1995	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
LA	LEGIS./CODE Proposed April '95	Would require private and parochial school students to pass exit exam before graduation. Title: **HB 345 - Exit Exam** Author: Hunter Source: Louisiana House of Representatives, Legislative Services, *The Advocate*, April 27, 1995	
NJ	BOARD POLICY Passed June '94	Requires State Board of Education, after consulting with the commissioner, to establish uniform statewide levels of pupil proficiency in reading, writing and mathematics skills on the statewide assessment instruments and assessments required for district certification. Title: **NJAC 6:39(a) - Student Assessment** Source: American Chemical Society State and Local Government Affairs Program, "State and Local Reaction," December 1994	07/05/94
NM	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Allows school districts flexibility to determine local priorities and make decisions necessary to improve student performance. The process allows for better accountability at all levels; it gives the State Department of Education the opportunity to better administer public education policy; it allows school districts to demonstrate how education dollars are being spent to improve student performance; and it allows the legislature to evaluate how all components of the public school system are working. The act also: required the State Department of Education to redefine special education services to include evaluation in order to determine funding; appropriated $3.2 million to the State Department of Education to fund special projects (education programs designed to improve student achievement or provide professional development activities) that include, among others, public service learning initiatives, professional development activities and school-to-work initiatives; appropriated $225,000 for school districts operating year-round schools as well as districts operating high schools in double sessions. Title: **Education Appropriation Act** Source: Legislative Education Study Committee	
TX	LEGIS./CODE Enacted 1993	Sets public education goals, orders state education board to establish essential skills and knowledge to achieve goals and to create and implement statewide assessment program that is primarily performance-based to ensure school accountability for student achievement of the goals. State education agency shall adopt criterion-referenced assessment instruments to assess reading, writing, social studies, science, math and other subjects set by state board and shall adopt secondary exit-level assessments. Each board of trustees shall publish annual report describing performance of district and each school. Central education agency will prepare report card for each campus. Title: **Chapter 35 - Public School System Accountability** Source: State Education Code	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
		AT-RISK YOUTH/DROPOUT PREVENTION (also see EQUITY)	
AR	LEGIS./CODE Enacted March '95	Establishes Intervention and Prevention Grant Program for at-risk Arkansas schoolchildren. Title: **SB 510 - Program for At-Risk Children** Author: Gordon Source: *StateNet*	
		ATTENDANCE (also see INCENTIVES/SANCTIONS)	
AR	LEGIS./CODE Enacted March '95	Requires school districts to notify parents when their children accumulate excessive unexcused absences. Title: **SB 525 - Parent Notification** Author: Walters Source: *StateNet*	
KS	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	HB 2109 authorized law enforcement officers to deliver children subject to the compulsory attendance law but not in school to the school the child attends or the child's parent or custodian; added to the definition of "inexcusably absent" (used for purposes of enforcing the compulsory attendance law) the situation in which the child has inexcusable absences of seven or more days in a school year. Title: **HB 2109 - Enforcing Compulsory Attendance** Source: Kansas Legislative Research Department	
KY	BOARD POLICY Enacted May '95	Defines average daily attendance of pupils for funding purposes under the Support Educational Excellence in Kentucky Program; bases state funding upon average daily attendance; defines minimum age for school attendance; defines attendance credit for moral instruction and 4-H activities; requires attendance records to be kept by teachers. Title: **702 KAR 7:050 - Average Daily Attendance** Source: *StateNet*	05/01/95
MD	LEGIS./CODE Enacted June '95	Makes a person who has legal custody or care and control of a child who is at least 5 years old, but under the age of 16, responsible for seeing that the child attends school or receives instruction. Makes person who fails to see that a child attends school guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a fine not to exceed $50 per day of unlawful absence or imprisonment not to exceed 10 days, or both. Legislation was introduced to eliminate the defense that a person is unable to control a child and should not be subject to penalty. The bill also increases the penalty for a second conviction. Title: **HB 132, Chapter 350 - School Attendance** Source: Department of Legislative Reference	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
MO	LEGIS./CODE Proposed May '95	Raises compulsory school attendance age from 16 to 18. Requires anyone under 18 years of age who wishes to obtain a motor vehicle operator's license or temporary permit to present to the director of revenue a high school diploma, general education development certificate (GED) or documentation that the applicant is attending high school and has earned a minimum of 2.25 units of credit the preceding semester or is enrolled in a special education program, private or home-school program, approved alternative curriculum for students at risk, or is attempting to obtain a GED. Also requires superintendents of schools, chief administrative officers of nonpublic schools or parents (in the case of home-schooled students) to provide documentation of enrollment status and progress toward graduation. If a student drops out of school, has 10 or more consecutive unexcused absences or 15 unexcused absences in a semester, the school or parent (of a home-schooled student) must notify the Department of Revenue, which will notify the student that his or her operator's license will be suspended within 30 days if he or she does not provide required documentation. Persons knowingly submitting false information are guilty of a misdemeanor. The bill permits local school boards to decline to pursue revocation of an emancipated minor's driver's license if they determine it is in the minor's best interest to have a license. The bill also requires parental approval before individuals under the age of 18 who are not emancipated minors may receive an operator's license and contains provisions whereby parents of such children may petition the circuit court to revoke their children's operator licenses. Title: **HB 158 - School Attendance** Author: Kreider Source: House Research Division	
ND	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	If school district does not provide educational services to entire grade level, students in that grade may attend public school outside their district; school district of residence shall pay tuition to admitting school district. Public schools must be equally free, open and accessible at all times to all children who have reached the age of 6 by midnight August 31 in school districts that do not provide kindergarten, or the age of 5 for school districts that provide kindergarten. Accessibility applies to age 21. Title: **SB 2159 - District Tuition Agreements, School Term** Author: Committee on Education Source: *StateNet*	
TN	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '94	Authorizes judge to assess fine of up to $50 on parent or legal guardian of K-6 children if child is absent more than five days during each six-week period. Allows parent to show proof of child's illness but may reduce government benefits for unexcused absences. Title: **HB 1876/SB 2227 - Holding Parents Accountable for Student Attendance** Author: Ramsey Source: *StateNet*, April 13, 1994; Senate Education Committee	
TN	LEGIS./CODE Enacted June '94	Provides for school superintendent to provide written notice to parents of students who accumulate five days of absences. New notice will be sent for each five absences. Title: **SB 2375 - Notice to Parents of Truant Student** Author: Burks Source: Senate Education Committee, *Legislative Summary* 1994	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
TX	LEGIS./CODE Enacted 1993	Defines failure to attend school as 10 or more days or parts of days in a six-month period or three or more days or parts of days in four-week period without excuse. Allows for prosecution. Title: **Acts 1993, 73rd Legislature, Chapter 358-3** Source: State Education Code	09/01/93
VA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '94	Revises definition of "person of school age" to include students for whom English is a second language who enter school for the first time after reaching their 12th birthday and before reaching age 22. Provision clarifies that "person of school age" includes children with disabilities aged 2-21. Title: **HB 348 - Defines "Person of School Age"** Author: Van Landingham Source: *StateNet*	
WI	GOVERNOR'S PROPOSAL Proposed February '95	Would reduce compulsory school attendance age from 18 to 17 and allow school board to permit a child age 17 or over to participate in a program or curriculum modification upon request of the child. Title: **Compulsory Attendance - Proposed Budget 1995-97** Author: Thompson Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, *Education Forward*, March, 1995	
WI	LEGIS./CODE Proposed June '95	Expands alternatives available to a court for a juvenile found to be habitually truant to include: revocation or refusal to issue a work permit to the juvenile, and order parent, guardian, legal custodian or person who has the juvenile under his or her control to participate in counseling at his or her own expense. If a juvenile violates court order related to truancy, court may order sanctions including suspending the juvenile's driver's license for not more than one year and one or more of the dispositions it could have imposed under the original order. Department of Industry, Labor and Human Relations also authorized to revoke a juvenile's work permit if the juvenile's school attendance would best be served by the revocation. Title: **AB 130 - Habitually Truant** Source: Legislative Council Staff	
WI	LEGIS./CODE Proposed June '95	Lowers Wisconsin's 18-year-old compulsory school attendance age by providing that, with written approval of the child's parent or guardian, any child age 16 years or older shall be waived from regular school attendance if child is: (1) employed full time; (2) is full-time student at technical college; or (3) is participating in an approved apprenticeship program. Title: **AB 150, as Amended by the Joint Committee on Finance - Compulsory School Attendance** Source: Legislative Council Staff	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
		CHARTER SCHOOLS (also see CHOICE)	
AK	LEGIS./CODE Passed May '95	Pilot program approved by legislature authorizes up to 30 charter schools statewide. The bill is fashioned after Alaska 2000 legislation introduced in 1993. Under the law, a charter school operates as a school within a local district but is exempt from local textbook, program, curriculum and scheduling requirements and operates its own program budget. An academic policy committee, consisting of parents and teachers, governs the charter school and selects its principal. The school operates under a contract between the academic policy committee and the local school board. Applications to establish a charter school must be approved by local school board and State Board of Education. Title: "SB 88 - New Law Authorizes 30 Charter Schools" Source: Alaska Department of Education, *Information Exchange*, May 12, 1995	
AR	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Allows local school districts to contract charter schools with the Department of Education in a three-year performance-based contract which would exempt the school from state and local rules and regulations. Title: **HB 1934 - Charter School Contracts** Author: Cunningham Source: *StateNet*	
AZ	BOARD POLICY Enacted 1995	Grants final approval to 11 charter schools, the state's first. Sixteen more charter schools received conditional approval. Under state law passed last year by the legislature, 50 charter schools can be approved each year. Both the Arizona state school board and the state board for charter schools have authority to approve the schools. Some of the charter schools plan to hold classes on a year-round schedule and could open their doors as early as summer 1995. Among the approved schools is a trilingual and tricultural K-12 school, encompassing Spanish, English and Yaqui — a Native American language. Title: "Arizona Grants Approval to 11 Charter Schools" Source: *Education Week*, April 12, 1995	
CA	LEGIS./CODE Proposed March '95	Would increase statewide limit of charter schools from 100 to 300; allow petitions signed by 10% of parents of pupils in the district, or 50% of parents of pupils in a school, to establish a charter school; delete provision allowing school district to convert all of its schools to charter schools with the signature of 50% of the district's teachers and instead require that 50% of the parents sign the charter petition; institute appeals procedure for denied petitions; require school districts to make specific allocations to charter schools based upon average daily attendance and the average amount the district receives for certain categorical programs; and establish Charter School Startup Fund to provide grants of up to $100,000 for start-up costs and renovating or remodeling costs for existing facilities. Title: **SB 748 & SB 993 - Charter Schools 1995** Source: Association of California School Administrators, "Sacramento Education Legislative Letter," *EDCAL*, March 17, 1995	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
CT	LEGIS./CODE Killed May '95	Bill passed by the Senate would have created charter schools, but it died on the House calendar at the end of the legislative session. Bills on public and private school choice were not brought to a vote on the floor of either house. Governor has created blue-ribbon commission to study the issue, which will be reexamined next year. Title: **Choice and Charters** Source: Office of Legislative Research	
DE	LEGIS./CODE Proposed May '95	Would create the Charter School Act of 1995 and grant authority to the State Board of Education and local school boards to issue charters that would "operate as independent public schools, free from ordinary regulations and restrictions contained in the Delaware Code." Uses a "funding-follows-the-child" formula to achieve equality between charter schools and public ones. "Ensures accountability... by focusing the charter school's mission on academic achievement and requiring development of a charter specifying the academic goals and strategies" of the charters. Members of the board of directors of an organization charged with "chartering" schools would operate the charters, but each charter would be "held accountable for its performance by the school board which issued its charter." Title: **SB 200 - Charter Schools** Author: Sokola, Reed, Gilligan and DiPinto Source: *Daily Report Card*, June 2, 1995	
FL	LEGIS./CODE Died April '95	House and Senate passed charter school legislation, but final bill never made it out of conference committee. Title: "Let the Sun Shine on Charter Schools" Source: *Daily Report Card*, April 12, 1995	
GA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Relates to grants for educational programs and charter schools, substantially changing provisions relating to charter schools. Changes period of time for which performance-based school contract charters shall remain in effect; provides requirements for operation of charter schools; changes period of time for which charters may be renewed. Title: **SB 54 - Charter School Revisions** Author: Taylor Source: *StateNet*	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
HI	LEGIS./CODE Enacted 1994	Up to 25 "student-centered" charter-type schools to be created from existing public schools under 1994 legislation. Local school board must be established and develop detailed implementation plan (i.e., charter) approved by three-fifths of the school's administration, support and teaching personnel, and parents. Plan becomes effective 30 days after submission to the State Board of Education unless it does not comply with statewide educational performance standards (note: this board is similar to a district board since Hawaii has only one school district). Once accepted, the school is to receive state funds equal to the statewide per-pupil expenditure for average daily attendance, in addition to other applicable state and federal programmatic funds. Up to 6.5% may be given back to the state education department if administrative services are provided. Unclear if schools will become legally autonomous; however, teachers remain employees of the state and collective bargaining remains in place. Title: "Comparing Charter School Laws: The Issue of Autonomy" Source: Morrison Institute for Public Policy, School of Public Affairs, Arizona State University, *Policy Brief*, September 1994	
IA	LEGIS./CODE Killed February '94	Would have set up provisions by which charter schools could be established. Board of directors of school district, two or more certified teachers or 10 or more parents could submit application to charter a school to the department of education with up to 20 charter schools to operate in the state. Charter school could not issue bonds or levy property taxes or use state funds to purchase land or buildings or construct, reconstruct or improve the school. Title: **Charter Schools Act of 1994** Source: SSB 2203 Legislature	
ID	LEGIS./CODE Killed May '95	Established procedure for the creation of charter schools. (Passed the House, died in Senate committee.) Title: **HB 163 - Charter Schools** Source: Idaho Legislative Services	
IL	LEGIS./CODE Proposed March '95	Calls for creation of 45 pilot charter schools throughout the state. Requires charter schools to use certified teachers (exceptions in very limited circumstances). Title: **HB 207 - Charter Schools 1995** Author: Daniels Source: Illinois Association of School Boards, *The Lend Line*, March 31, 1995	
IL	LEGIS./CODE Proposed March '95	As amended, allows for the creation of charter schools throughout the state. No requirement on certification of teachers. Title: **SB 19 - Charter Schools 95** Author: O'Malley Source: Illinois Association of School Boards, *The Lend Line*, March 31, 1995	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
IN	LEGIS./CODE Pending March '95	Allows certain sponsors to issue charters to establish charter schools. Sets forth the organization, powers, method of establishment, charter contents, policies, oversight and restrictions for charter schools. Title: **HB 1465 - Charter Schools** Source: Indiana University Policy Center	07/01/95
IN	LEGIS./CODE Pending March '95	Would create charter school districts. Establishes a "freeway school corporation" program; requires state board of education (upon petition of a school corporation) to enter into a contract with the school corporation that (1) designates the school corporation as a freeway school corporation; (2) suspends the operation of certain statutes and rules that regulate schools; (3) confers certain new powers; and (4) requires the school corporation to agree to produce quantifiable educational benefits. Title: **SBO274 - Freeway School Corporation Program** Source: Indiana University Policy Center	07/01/95
LA	LEGIS./CODE Passed June '95	Would allow the creation of charter schools; awaiting signature from the governor. Legislators in both houses had killed previous attempts to establish charter schools. Pending legislation would allow up to eight school districts to start at least one charter school. Those districts could launch one such school for every 20,000 students the district enrolls. Schools would be exempt from most state laws and regulations, but would be subject to control of local school boards. Boards would be required to cancel a charter if a school could not demonstrate students' academic improvement. Title: "Charter School Bill" Source: *Education Week*, June 14, 1995	
MA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted 1993	As part of a broader reform package, Massachusetts passed legislation in 1993 in which 25 public charter schools are permitted. Each may be organized by two or more certified teachers, 10 or more parents or by any other individual or group that successfully enters into a charter agreement with the state secretary of education (existing private schools are not allowed to apply). Legal and financial autonomy is automatically granted to charter schools. Although charter schools are not authorized to begin until school year 1995-96, the initial application process yielded 64 proposals, of which 15 obtained preliminary approval. Three proposals will be subcontracted with the Edison Project, a for-profit enterprise. Other approved proposals include a Boston University plan for a residential high school for homeless children and wards of the state, and a proposal for Benjamin Franklin Classical, which will offer a rigorous classical education for students in grades K-8. Title: "Comparing Charter School Laws: The Issue of Autonomy" Source: Morrison Institute for Public Policy, School of Public Affairs, Arizona State University, *Policy Brief*, September 1994	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
MI	LEGIS./CODE Enacted January '95	Creates new charter school law designed to address court concerns with a previous law that was overturned. The new law addresses the judge's concern that the state board of education did not have adequate oversight of charter schools under the previous measure. The state's first charter schools were denied funding last fall when the initial law was overturned. Lawmakers also passed a special appropriations bill that would allow state funds to flow to eight charter schools. However, the legislature did not address the schools' expenditures from fall 1994, when many teachers, and bills, went unpaid because state funding was blocked in court. The appropriations measure apparently precludes funding for the controversial Noah Webster Academy, a network of home-schooling families that won a charter from a small rural school district. Title: "Michigan Lawmakers Pass Bill To Fix Charter Law" Source: *Education Week*, January 11, 1995	04/01/95
MN	LEGIS./CODE Proposed June '95	Would increase the number of charter schools that may be approved from 35 to 40 and, for the first time, allow public postsecondary education institutions to sponsor up to three charter schools. A home school may not become a charter school. Charter schools may receive transportation funding for its students. Title: **Charter Schools** Source: Minnesota House Ways and Means Committee	
NC	LEGIS./CODE Proposed April '95	Authorizes creation and funding of charter schools. Title: **H 955 - Charter Schools** Source: North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, *DPI Review*, April 20, 1995	
PA	LEGIS./CODE Proposed June '95	Provides for the establishment of charter schools, for powers and duties of the secretary of education and state board of education and for payments to charter schools. Requires certain reports and recommendations. Title: **HB 1834 - Charter Schools** Author: Stairs Source: *StateNet*	
TX	LEGIS./CODE Passed May '95	Allows local voters to adopt a home-rule charter to free their school district from many state regulations. Districts still subject to standards including student testing, school finance, the no-pass no-play rule and, for low-performing campuses only, class-size limits in the early grades. Parents and teachers may petition school board for campus charter to design their own programs, such as magnet schools for math or science, which also are free from numerous state requirements. The state board of education can grant up to 20 charters for open enrollment schools that are exempt from many requirements and can draw students from all over. Title: "Charter/Local Control - Education Measure Approved; Bush Says He'll Sign Bill Tuesday" Source: *The Dallas Morning News*, May 28, 1995	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
WI	LEGIS./CODE Proposed June '91	Would delete for Milwaukee Public Schools number of restrictions in Wisconsin's current charter school law, including provisions that: (1) require state superintendent's approval for establishment of charter school; (2) prohibit school district from establishing more than two charter schools; (3) allow no more than 10 school districts to establish charter schools; (4) limit amount school district may spend, on average, per pupil enrolled in any charter school to amount it spends, on average, per pupil enrolled in regular public school; (5) prohibit school board from entering into contract for establishment of charter school that would result in conversion of private school to charter school; (6) require charter school personnel be school district employees; and (7) provide that charter school is instrumentality of school district in which it is located and all charter school personnel shall be employed by school district. In addition, would make changes in Municipal Employment Relations Act as it applies to charter schools. Wisconsin's current charter school law authorizes creation of charter schools either upon school board's initiative or upon receipt by school board of written petition from teachers employed by school district. Title: **AB 150, as amended by the Joint Committee on Finance - Charter Schools** Source: Legislative Council Staff	
WY	LEGIS./CODE Enacted March '95	Authorizes creation of charter schools within districts; authorizes such schools to operate independent of regulatory requirements and laws governing public schools as specified; specifies procedure and imposes conditions and limitations; prescribes charter criteria; requires local board approval and provides for appeal; grants charter schools authority over teachers; requires annual reporting to the state board by local districts. Title: **SB 70 - Charter Schools** Author: Prevedel Source: *StateNet*	
		CHOICE (also see CHARTER SCHOOLS and VOUCHERS)	
AR	LEGIS./CODE Enacted 1993	Allows later admission for students under the School Choice Act. Title: **Act 655 (SB 457)** Source: Arkansas School Boards Association	
GA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Relates to enrollment of high school students in postsecondary courses: changes definition of the term "eligible institution" or "institution" and types of institutions in which such high school students may enroll. Title: **SB 47 - High School Students' Enrollment in Postsecondary Courses** Author: Taylor Source: *StateNet*	
ID	LEGIS./CODE Enacted March '95	Relates to school attendance; provides for dual enrollment. Title: **HB 171 - School Attendance** Author: Committee on Education Source: *StateNet*	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
MO	LEGIS./CODE Proposed May ' 95	Proposed constitutional amendment would grant annual, nontaxable, scholarships to all school-age Missouri children. Scholarships could be no less than one-half of the annual average amount of state and local expenditures per public school student (approximately $3,000 for the current fiscal year) and could be used to pay all or part of the cost of education at schools that elect to redeem scholarships. Both public and private schools could become eligible to redeem scholarships by filing a statement with the State Board of Education indicating the school's adherence to certain principles of nondiscrimination and lawful conduct. Resolution requires public school districts to allocate enrollment among schools based upon parental choice. Public schools that do not redeem scholarships, after completing all district enrollments, must accept students regardless of their residence until they meet their capacity. Schools may count non-resident students for state aid purposes. Resolution also prohibits the General Assembly from enacting regulations applicable to private schools without approval of three-fourths of its members, except regulations related to safety and fraud which may be enacted by a two-thirds vote. The General Assembly is directed to develop and implement a process through which public schools may become independent, scholarship-redeeming institutions that operate under regulations no more restrictive than those applicable to private schools that redeem scholarships. The resolution requires legal challenges to any provision of the amendment to be initiated within six months of the effective date of the amendment. After six months, the amendment's provisions can be challenged only upon their application. Title: **HJR 1 - School Choice** Author: Rizzo Source: House Research Division	
MO	LEGIS./CODE Enacted 1994	Calls for state board of education to direct department of education to develop guidelines for establishing enrollment option plans by pilot local school districts that will be sending or receiving students. Districts may establish cooperative agreements to send or receive one another's students. Title: **HB 1218 - Elementary and Secondary School District Enrollment Option Act** Source: Legislation	01/01/95
NM	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Enacts Postsecondary Education Articulation Act and College District Tax Act; creates Extended Learning Fund. Title: **HB 608 - Postsecondary Education Options** Author: Coll Source: *StateNet*	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
OK	BOARD POLICY Passed March '95	Relates to concurrent education and alternative education academy programs and schools; provides for students in common schools to be enrolled concurrently in courses at institutions of higher learning; allows certified teachers to teach students in alternative schools in areas for which teacher does not hold certification; counseling and social services to be provided by persons not certified as school counselors; alternative education plan shall be component of districts' "Comprehensive Local Education Plan"; clarifies curriculum areas in which students may concurrently enroll at college level and receive high school credit; and implements proficiency-based promotion. Title: **OAC 210:35-19-3, 210:35-29-1 to 210:35-29-7 - Concurrent Enrollment & Alternative Education** Source: *StateNet*	
WA	BOARD POLICY Passed April '95	Implements Chapter 205, laws of 1994, by extending "Running-Start" program attendance to Central, Eastern and Washington State universities. Changes terminology and substance of existing program rules which are limited to attendance at community and technical colleges. Title: **WAC 392-169-005 to 392-169-125 - Running Start Program Rules Respecting High School Student Attendance** Source: *StateNet*	05/14/95
WI	GOVERNOR'S PROPOSAL Proposed February '95	Provides that children be allowed to attend any public school (including prekindergarten, early childhood or school-operated day care) in any other district if space is available, starting in 1996-97. Boards must adopt criteria for accepting applications; applications may be rejected only for reasons of space, program capacity or student involvement in disciplinary proceedings; transfers from a district may be limited in 1996-97 and 1997-98 (to 5% and 10%, respectively); tuition will be the lower of the sending or receiving district cost unless another amount is negotiated; and parents will be responsible for transportation (school districts will be permitted to provide transportation to children participating in public school choice programs). Districts may reject applications for interdistrict transfers if such transfers would violate court-ordered plan or plan to reduce racial imbalance. Also permits a pupil to enroll in school in another district to take one or more courses. Title: **Public School Choice Proposed Budget 1995-97** Author: Thompson Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, *Education Forward*, March 1995	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
WI	LEGIS./CODE Proposed June '95	Creates three new programs to give pupils and their parents increased options to choose the public school the pupil will attend for all or selected courses: (1) interdistrict school choice, which allows a pupil to attend any public school, including a prekindergarten, early childhood or school-operated day care program, located outside his or her school district of residence, if the pupil's parent complies with certain application deadlines and procedures; (2) interdistrict enrollment options, which allows a pupil enrolled in a public school district to take one or more courses in another district if his or her district of residence does not offer or does not have space available in a comparable course or courses (in the high school grades, the course or courses must also satisfy high school graduation requirements in the pupil's district of residence); and (3) intradistrict enrollment options, which allow a pupil enrolled in a public school district to take one or more courses at a public school within the pupil's district of residence but outside the pupil's attendance area. The three identical bills list specific limited reasons for which a school district may reject an application or prohibit a pupil from attending another district. Generally, a pupil's ability to participate in these programs is contingent upon availability of space in the school, program, class or grade and the pupil's parent being responsible for providing transportation. If a school district provides transportation, it will receive state transportation aid. For the interdistrict choice program, in the 1996-97 school year, the school board of the district of residence may limit the number of resident pupils attending public school in another school district to 5% of its membership. In the 1997-98 school year, that number may be limited to 10% of a district's enrollment. Title: **AB 347 and SB 161 - Choice** Source: Legislative Council Staff	
WY	LEGIS./CODE Enacted February '95	Relates to cooperative educational services: authorizes school districts and state postsecondary education institutions to establish postsecondary enrollment options for high school juniors and seniors, prescribes credits for program participation, specifies financial arrangements, provides for reimbursement of transportation costs. Title: **SB 127 - Choice** Author: Prevedel Source: *StateNet*	
WY	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Provides for agreements among school districts, the state university and Wyoming community colleges to establish postsecondary education enrollment options for high school juniors and seniors. Title: **SB 0127 - Postsecondary Enrollment Options** Source: Wyoming State Legislature	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
		COLLECTIVE BARGAINING (also see TEACHER COMPENSATION and TEACHER CONTRACTS)	
IN	LEGIS./CODE Pending March '95	Permits certificated school employee to enter into separate employment contract with school employer on any employment matter; provides that to the extent a separate contract conflicts with the collective bargaining agreement, the separate contract supersedes the collective bargaining agreement. Title: **SBO169 - Independent Teacher Contracts** Source: Indiana University Policy Center	07/01/95
		COMMUNITY SERVICE/VOLUNTEERISM	
AR	LEGIS./CODE Enacted 1993	Permits one credit for community service to be applied toward graduation. Title: **Act 648 (SB 53)** Source: Arkansas School Boards Association	
		COUNSELING/GUIDANCE	
IN	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Establishes school guidance counselor grant program and fund to enhance availability and quality of school guidance counseling programs in kindergarten through grade 6; establishes advisory committee to help department of education administer school guidance counselor program. Title: **SB 323 - School Guidance Programs** Author: Sinks Source: *StateNet*	
		CURRICULUM (also see ASSESSMENT/TESTING, INSTRUCTION METHODS, RELIGION and SECONDARY	
AL	LEGIS./CODE Proposed June '95	Requires comprehensive core curriculum for high school schools, including four years of English, mathematics, science and social studies; requires English, social studies, math and science be taught each year in grades 1-8; requires every elementary school to teach phonics; requires funds to be budgeted for tutorial assistance programs at each school for students identified on normed-reference tests as one or more grade levels below national norm; requires state assistance and intervention for schools identified as needing assistance. Title: **HB 466/SB 391 - Nationally Normed Test** Source: Legislative Fiscal Office	
AR	LEGIS./CODE Enacted 1993	Provides for state director of education to develop materials for the teaching of African-American history in grades K-12. Title: **Act 963 (HB 1644)** Source: Arkansas School Boards Association	
AR	LEGIS./CODE Enacted February '95	Encourages school posting of historical documents and prohibits content-based censorship of American history or heritage based on religious or other references in these writings, documents and records. Title: **HB 1328 - History Curriculum** Author: Wooldridge Source: *StateNet*	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
AR	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Requires education department to develop materials for certain courses in grades 7-12 to teach current state laws relevant to students in these grades. Title: **HB 1506 - Social Studies Curriculum** Author: Flanagin Source: *StateNet*	
AR	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Establishes Arkansas Advanced Placement Incentive Program for state high school students. Title: **SB 436 - High School Advanced Placement Program** Author: Mahony Source: *StateNet*	
IN	LEGIS./CODE Proposed January '95	Proposes "character trait instruction" — instruction that stresses nature and importance of the following: (1) being honest and truthful, (2) respecting authority, (3) respecting property of others, (4) always doing your personal best, (5) not stealing, (6) not resorting to violence to settle disputes, (7) taking personal responsibility for obligations to family and community, (8) taking personal responsibility for earning a livelihood, (9) treating others as you would want to be treated, (10) respecting national flag, the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Indiana, (11) respecting one's parents and home and (12) respecting individuals, regardless of race, religion and gender. Department shall develop comprehensive plan for the implementation, beginning with the 1997-98 school year, of character trait instruction in school corporations from kindergarten through grade 12. Department shall submit plan to the general assembly by December 12, 1996. Title: **SB 78 - Character Trait Education** Authors: Thompson, Adams and Miller Source: Copy of the Bill	
IN	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Permits school corporation to allow any principal or teacher to read or post in school building or classroom or at school event excerpts and portions of certain historical documents. Forbids censorship based upon religious content. Requires each library, media center or equivalent facility that a school corporation maintains for student use to contain at least one copy of specified documents in the facility's permanent collection. Title: **HB 1255 - Curriculum** Author: Padfield Source: *StateNet*	
IN	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Recognizes American Sign Language (ASL) as a standard, independent language; allows public school to offer classes in ASL as a first or second language; allows state-supported college or university to offer classes in ASL as foreign language or part of another discipline. Title: **HB 1681 - American Sign Language** Author: Porter Source: *StateNet*	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
MA	LEGIS./CODE Proposed June '95	Relates to deleting foreign languages from the area of competency determination for statewide education goals. Title: **SB 1925 - Foreign Languages** Source: *StateNet*	
MO	LEGIS./CODE Proposed May '95	Defines course material and content for any public school sex-education program. Such courses must include discussions of abstinence from sexual intercourse as 100% effective protection against unwanted pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases. Additionally, instruction must include but is not limited to discussion of emotional and psychological consequences of pre-adolescent and adolescent sex, values of monogamous heterosexual marriages and the laws of the state relating to statutory rape and financial responsibility for children born out of wedlock. Any comprehensive sex education course must include information on AIDS but must allow students to decline to participate in this portion of the course. Title: **HB 27 - Sex Education** Author: Keeven Source: House Research	
MO	LEGIS./CODE Proposed May '95	Requires public schools to offer instruction in the history of the Holocaust to 11th- and 12th-grade students. Subject must be taught in a manner that encourages tolerance of diversity and promotes democratic values. Title: **HB 520 - Holocaust Education in Public Schools** Author: Rizzo Source: House Research Division	
NC	LEGIS./CODE Proposed April '95	Provides for parental review of any instruction on sexually transmitted diseases or out-of-wedlock pregnancy given as part of comprehensive school health program; requires public schools to offer "abstinence-until-marriage" program; authorizes local school boards to offer comprehensive sex education after local review and approval. The House Preschool/Elementary/Secondary Education subcommittee gave a favorable report to this "Teach Abstinence Until Marriage" bill. Title: **HB 834 - Abstinence** Source: North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, *DPI Review*, April 20, 1995	
NJ	LEGIS./CODE Enacted January '94	Requires public school sex education and AIDS education programs to stress abstinence. Title: **HB 316 - Public School Sex Education** Author: Crecco Source: *StateNet*	
NM	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Allows participation on an athletic team or in an athletic sport during school day to count toward fulfillment of physical education requirement and requires state competency examinations (which student must pass in order to receive high school diploma) to include section on the U.S. and state Constitutions. Title: **Changes in Graduation Requirements** Source: Legislative Education Study Committee	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
NM	LEGIS./CODE Vetoed April '95	Recognizes American Sign Language as a language and authorizes teaching it in the public schools. Title: **HB 273 - American Sign Language** Author: Casey Source: *StateNet*	
NM	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Requires students to pass state competency exam on the U.S. Constitution and Constitution of New Mexico. Title: **SB 511 - Civics Competency Exam** Author: Duran Source: *StateNet*	
OH	LEGIS./CODE Proposed June '95	Permits students in grades 7-12 to substitute interscholastic sports activities for physical education class, if, in place of the physical education class, the student attends either another class included in the district's graded course of study or a supervised study session. Title: **HB 403 - Interscholastic Sports for PE Classes** Author: Nein Source: *StateNet*	
TX	LEGIS./CODE Enacted 1994	Added awards and subsidies for students, teachers and schools (e.g., $100 to students scoring three or better on the Advanced Placement (AP) test; $250 for teaching an AP course for the first time; $50 in the teacher bonus pool for each student enrolled in the school who scores three or better on AP test; $65 for testing fee for students scoring three or better). Main portion of act passed in 1993. Title: **Chapter 35 - Advanced Placement Initiatives** Source: State Education Code	
UT	LEGIS./CODE Enacted 1988	Calls for honesty, temperance, morality, courtesy, obedience to law, respect for and understanding of the constitutions of the United States and the state of Utah, the benefits of the free enterprise system, respect for parents and home, dignity and necessity of honest labor and other skills, habits, and qualities of character which will promote an upright and desirable citizenry and better prepare students for a richer, happier life to be taught in connection with regular school work. Title: **Chapter 13, 53A-13-101 - Character Habits**	04/25/88
UT	LEGIS./CODE Enacted February '95	Provides for teaching of respect for and understanding of Declaration of Independence in the public schools; makes certain technical changes. Title: **SB 32 - History Curriculum** Author: Blackham Source: *StateNet*	
WA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted 1994	Calls for stressing importance of values and traits not intended to be assessed or to be standards for graduation: honesty, integrity and trust; respect for self and others; responsibility for personal actions and commitments; self-discipline and moderation; diligence and a positive work ethic; respect for law and authority; healthy and positive behavior; and family as the basis for society. Title: **28A.150.211 - Values and Traits Recognized** Source: Statute	09/01/94

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
DISCIPLINE (also see ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS, PARENT/FAMILY and SAFETY/CRIME/VIOLENCE)			
AL	LEGIS./CODE Proposed June '95	Provides immunity for teachers to use corporal punishment to maintain order in the classroom as provided for by local board policy; requires local boards to provide legal support to the teacher; requires local boards to cause warrant of arrest to be issued for any person assaulting a teacher and to prosecute such person; and exempts teachers from certain provisions of the law relating to child abuse when their actions are consistent with written board policies. Title: **HB 470/SB 367 - Corporal Punishment** Source: Legislative Fiscal Office	
AR	LEGIS./CODE Enacted February '95	Provides for corporal punishment in schools to be administered only by teacher or school administrator, in the presence of an administrator or his designee, who shall be teacher or fellow administrator. Title: **HB 1326 - Corporal Punishment** Author: Hunton Source: *StateNet*	
AR	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Requires student discipline policies be reviewed by the school district's committee on personnel policies; requires policies to include prevention and conflict resolution provisions and appeals process for teachers. Title: **HB 1711 - Discipline Policies** Author: Smith Source: *StateNet*	
AR	LEGIS./CODE Enacted February '95	Prohibits any student expelled from any school district from enrolling in another school district until the expulsion has expired. Title: **SB 366 - Student Expulsion** Author: Boozman Source: *StateNet*	
AR	LEGIS./CODE Enacted March '95	Requires parents to indicate on school registration forms whether a child has been expelled or is a party to expulsion proceedings in another district. Title: **SB 536 - Parental Disclosure of Expulsion** Author: Mahony Source: *StateNet*	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
CA	LEGIS./CODE Proposed January '95	Would authorize school districts to adopt rules governing pupil conduct and discipline which include the use of corporal punishment. Would also: (A) define corporal punishment as "moderate use of physical force or physical contact by a teacher or principal as may be necessary to maintain discipline or to enforce school rules"; (B) permit teachers to administer corporal punishment if approved by the principal, if another adult is present and if, upon request, the pupil's parent is provided with a written explanation of reason for the punishment and name of the other adult who was present; (C) provide that teacher or other member of the instructional staff, principal or principal's designee or bus driver, would not be civilly or criminally liable for disciplining a pupil in conformity with the district's discipline rules, except in the case of excessive force or cruel and unusual punishment. Title: **AB 101 - Corporal Punishment** Author: Conroy Source: Association of California School Administrators, *EDCAL*, January 23, 1995	
CO	LEGIS./CODE Proposed April '95	Enables districts to create alternative schools to teach expelled or suspended K-12 students. Council staff working with variety of disabled community members concerned about students with disabilities. Such a placement could occur if a student's disruptive activities are determined not due to his or her disability. Also it may occur for students that do not have an identified disability. HB 1317 places such students at-risk for modeling disruptive behavior, and having teachers that are not appropriately trained for teaching students with disabilities. (Between the Lines, April 1995) Title: **HB 1317 - Alternative Schools** Source: Colorado Developmental Disabilities Planning Council	
DE	LEGIS./CODE Enacted 1994	Provides funding to districts in three areas: (1) alternative schools for expelled and disruptive youth; (2) intervention grants for middle and high schools; (3) prevention grants, targeted at younger students (conflict resolution, behavior management, reducing risk of failure, etc.) $347,000 funding provided in FY95. Title: **HB 247 - Alternative Schools, Intervention Grants, Prevention Grants**	
GA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Relates to educators, student discipline and liability. Title: **HB 134 - Teacher Liability for Student Discipline** Author: Walker Source: *StateNet*	
ID	LEGIS./CODE Enacted March '95	Requires district board of trustees to expel student carrying concealed firearm on school property and provides for immediate suspension. Also provides for discipline of students with disabilities. Title: **SB 1189 - Student Discipline** Author: Committee on Education Source: *StateNet*	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
IN	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Makes it easier to suspend or expel a student. Suspensions once limited to five days can be increased to 10 days, and teachers can bar students from their areas of supervision for up to five days. Safe schools legislation approved, complying with federal law. Fines will be assessed for crimes committed with weapons with proceeds going to schools to be used for purchasing metal detectors and other safety equipment. The law also would allow schools to adopt dress codes. Title: "Indiana Legislative Update" Source: *Education Week*, May 17, 1995	
MD	LEGIS./CODE Enacted June '95	Makes it discretionary rather than mandatory for a law enforcement officer to arrest an individual who unlawfully possesses a portable pager on school property. The officer must immediately inquire as to the reasons the individual possesses the pager and may arrest the violator. The original law, passed to combat drug trade in the schools, had resulted in the arrest of a student who had been given a pager by his parents so that they could contact him in an emergency. Title: **SB 545, Chapter 391 - Portable Pagers** Source: Department of Legislative Reference	
MO	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Requires public school districts to suspend for at least one year any student who brings a firearm to school. Chief officers of school districts are permitted to modify suspensions on a case-by-case basis, and school districts are not prohibited from offering alternative education programs to suspended students. Title: **HB 345 - Student Suspension** Source: House Research Division	
MO	LEGIS./CODE Proposed May '95	Requires public school districts to enforce any suspension or expulsion of student from any other Missouri public school district. Title: **HB 453 - Student Suspensions and Expulsions** Author: Heckemeyer Source: House Research Division	
MO	LEGIS./CODE Proposed May '95	Defines corporal punishment and prohibits employees of public schools from administering it to pupils. Title: **HB 476 - Corporal Punishment in Schools** Author: Boucher Source: House Research Division	
MS	LEGIS./CODE Enacted March '95	Requires permanent record and cumulative folder of any expelled public school student to contain the date of and reason for the expulsion. Requires student's permanent record to maintain active status after the student has been expelled. Provides private school officials with access to the cumulative folders of public school students transferring to a private school. Authorizes the State Department of Education to establish central reporting system concerning expulsions. Title: **HB 534 - Expulsion Records** Author: Howell Source: *StateNet*	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
ND	LEGIS./CODE Enacted March '95	Relates to destruction of school property and parental responsibility. Title: **SB 2458 - Destruction of School Property** Author: Grindberg Source: *StateNet*	
NJ	PROGRAM Active October '94	Sends disruptive high school students to college instead of banishing them to detention halls. Three years ago, New Jersey opened non-traditional high schools in seven districts, most of them on college campuses. As of fall 1994, the Department of Education earmarked $3 million in federal funds to begin 14 more alternative schools with the goal of having one in each district. At-risk students receive extra support services, including one-on-one counseling, to help them deal with behavior problems. Each student's program is tailored specifically to his or her needs, including the option to enroll in college courses. Title: "Up, Not Out - Handling Disruptive High School Students" Source: *Education Week*, October 12, 1994	10/01/94
TN	LEGIS./CODE Enacted March '94	Authorizes local boards of education to promulgate and adopt rules and regulations prohibiting secondary school students from wearing clothing or accessories which denote membership in or affiliation with any gang associated with criminal activities while on school property. Title: **SB 1748/HB 2009 - Prohibition of Certain Clothing in Schools** Author: Ford Source: *StateNet*, Senate Education Committee	
UT	LEGIS./CODE Enacted 1994	Allows local boards and public schools to adopt dress codes requiring all students to wear designated uniform during the school day. Requires vote if parents or guardians of 20% of students present signed petition to adopting authority within 30 days after adoption. Election requirement and policy apply at school or district level. Title: **Uniforms in Public Schools - Determination by School Board or School - Patron Approval** Source: State Education Code	05/02/94
VA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Directs board of education to develop guidelines for local school boards to use when establishing requirements for students to wear uniforms. Title: **School Uniforms** Source: Virginia General Assembly 1995 Session Summary	
VA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted March '95	Directs board of education, in consultation with Office of the Attorney General, to develop model guidelines for local school boards to use when establishing requirements for pupils to wear uniforms. Board is to consider ways to promote parental and community involvement; relevant state and federal constitutional concerns, such as freedom of religion and freedom of speech; and ability of pupils to purchase such clothing. Also authorizes local school boards to establish requirements for public school students to wear school uniforms during the day. Title: **HB 2032 and HB 2136 - School Uniforms** Author: Tata and Diamonstein Source: *StateNet*	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
VA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted March '95	Refers to corporal punishment and teacher immunity for certain actions; clarifies parameters of corporal punishment. Title: **SB 942 - Corporal Punishment** Author: Houck Source: *StateNet*	
VT	LEGIS./CODE Enacted August '94	Defines harassment on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, marital status, sex, sexual orientation or disability and requires independent and public schools, University of Vermont and Vermont state colleges adopt policies prohibiting harassment of students and establishing clear procedures for receiving and handling complaints of harassment of students. Also directs commissioner of education to work with Governor's Commission on Women and Human Rights Commission to develop model policies and procedures that schools could use to fulfill requirements of this act. Title: **S 313 - Harassment** Source: Summary of Acts and Resolutions	07/01/94
WI	LEGIS./CODE Enacted July '95	Permits school districts to refuse to enroll student during term of expulsion from another district. Title: **AB 57 - Enrolling Expelled Students** Author: Hahn and Drzewiecki Source: Wisconsin Association of School Boards, *Legislative Alert*, March 9, 1995, Vol. 95-8	
WI	LEGIS./CODE Passed 1995	Expands reasons for which pupil 16 years of age may be expelled from school to include repeated conduct, while at school or under supervision of school authority, that disrupted school authorities' ability to maintain order or atmosphere at school or school-supervised activity. These new grounds for expulsion apply to Milwaukee public schools only if pupil is enrolled or participating in alternative educational program for disruptive pupils. Title: **AB 116 - Pupil Expulsion Reason Expanded** Author: Brandemueh and Huelsman Source: Wisconsin Association of School Boards, *Legislative Alert*, May 26, 1995	
WI	LEGIS./CODE Passed June '95	Permits public school district to refuse to enroll student during term of expulsion from another public school district. Also requires expelled student's former school district to provide in writing a copy of the expulsion findings and order, written explanation of reasons for the expulsion and length of term of the expulsion if requested by another district in which the student seeks to enroll. Title: **AB 57, as amended by Assembly Amendment 1 - Enrollment of Student During Time of Expulsion** Source: Legislative Council Staff	
WI	LEGIS./CODE Passed June '95	Extends time pupil may be suspended from school if notice of expulsion hearing has not been set from three days to five days. Title: **AB 117 - Amount of Time Pupil May Be Suspended** Source: Legislative Council Staff	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
WI	LEGIS./CODE Pending May '95	Increases exchange of otherwise confidential information about juveniles among law enforcement agencies, courts, corrections agencies, social services agencies and school districts. Title: **AB 130 - Confidential Information Concerning Juveniles** Source: Legislative Council Staff	
WI	LEGIS./CODE Pending May '95	Provides for suspension and proceedings to expel student who, while at school or under supervision of school authority, possessed knife of no reasonable use to the pupil, firearm or explosive. All other grounds for expulsion in Wisconsin leave decision regarding expulsion to school district. Title: **SB 113 - Suspension/Expulsion of Students** Source: Legislative Council Staff	
WV	LEGIS./CODE Enacted March '95	Requires each school to adopt plan for school productivity and safety; sets forth policies on teacher disciplining and principal and superintendent suspension and expulsion of students. Title: **HB 2073 - Discipline** Author: Chambers Source: *StateNet*	
		EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION	
GA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	For 1995-96, increases funding for the voluntary pre-kindergarten program from $78.2 million to $160.6 million, expanding service to all 4-year-olds. About $20 million will go toward various technology purchases in elementary and secondary schools. Title: **Budget Adjustments to Quality Basic Education (QBE) Finance Program** Source: Southern Regional Education Board, *Legislative Report*, March 5, 1995, No. 4	
VA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Establishes long-term goal to reduce pupil-teacher ratio to 20 to 1 in grades K-3 in schools where 25% to 49% of students participate in federal lunch program, and to 18 to 1 in schools with more than 50% of students in the lunch program. Also sets goal to expand access to educational technology by automating public school libraries and linking libraries to individual classrooms in all schools. Another goal is to provide preschool programs for at-risk 4-year-olds not served in programs such as Head Start. Title: **Virginia Omnibus Education Act of 1995** Source: Southern Regional Education Board, *Legislative Report*, May 1995, No. 4	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
EDUCATION EXCELLENCE/REFORM (also see SITE-BASED MANAGEMENT)			
IL	LEGIS./CODE Enacted June '95	Overhauls Chicago school system by handing control to Mayor Richard M. Daley. Daley will appoint five-member board to govern the city's troubled schools and gain control of the district's $2.9 billion budget and $150 million deficit. Law restricts power of Chicago Teachers' Union and gives principals new authority to fire employees and set school schedules. It will dissolve the present 15-member school board and transfer authority to new panel of trustees. Daley also will name chief executive officer to supervise the district. New operating officer will have the task of improving financial efficiency and overseeing efforts to privatize district services. Subdistricts and subdistrict superintendents will be eliminated. Plan also streamlines state funding for district by creating two block grants, one for general education and one for education services. Meanwhile, seven property tax categories will be collapsed into one operating levy. District's School Finance Authority will be suspended for four years with trustees and Daley managing the finances. Title: "Governor Signs Bill Putting Mayor in Control of Chicago Schools" Source: *Education Week*, June 7, 1995	
IN	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Abolishes Indiana 2000 School Restructuring Program. Title: **HB 1279 - Indiana 2000** Author: Lohr Source: *StateNet*	
MD	LEGIS./CODE Enacted June '95	Extends to June 30, 1998, the Schools for Success challenge grant program under Chapter 210 of the Acts of 1992. State Department of Education, with concurrence of county boards of education or Baltimore's school commissioners, select public schools to receive the grants. Recipient schools must have low percentage of average daily attendance, high percentage of dropouts, low percentage of students passing the Maryland Functional Tests, poor performance on criterion-referenced tests and other mutually acceptable factors. Grant funds must be used to bring about systemic changes in the schools, including interagency activities, computer labs, salary incentive programs, staffing and total quality management. Each recipient school must have school improvement team to establish outcomes and measure achievement of outcomes within specified timeframe. Fiscal Year 1996 budget includes approximately $8 million for challenge grants. Title: **SB 763, Chapter 349 - Challenge Grant** Source: Department of Legislative Reference	
PA	GOVERNOR'S PROPOSAL Pending August '95	Would improve Pennsylvania schools, return control of education to families and local communities, and provide new opportunities for schoolchildren. Plan guided by three questions: Will it help kids learn? Will it improve school quality? Will it give parents more options for their children's future? Plan opens opportunities for families through school choice, charter schools, competition and local control. Title: "Governor Ridge Unveils 'KIDS' Plan to Reform and Improve Education" Source: Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Office of the Governor; news release, May 11, 1995	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
UT	LEGIS./CODE Enacted March '95	Modifies membership of Strategic Planning Task Force for public and higher education and requires task force to shift focus from higher education strategic planning to strategic planning for both systems. Title: **SB 36 - Public and Higher Education** Author: Steiner Source: *StateNet*	
		ENROLLMENT (see CHOICE)	
		EQUITY (also see AT-RISK YOUTH/DROPOUT PREVENTION)	
VA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Relates to increasing number of minority and low-income students who attend college by preparing them in high school. Title: **SB 554 - Preparation of At-Risk Students for Higher Education** Author: Lambert Source: *StateNet*	
VT	LEGIS./CODE Enacted August '94	Creates Committee on Educational Bias to gather data and other information that describes presence and extent of educational bias due to gender in Vermont schools. Also appropriates $7,500 to fund three schools to participate in demonstration project designed to identify gender inequities, experiment with corrective programs and measure results of the programs. Title: **S 123 - Committee on Educational Bias** Source: Summary of Acts and Resolutions	07/01/94
VT	LEGIS./CODE Enacted June '94	Requires schools to develop plans and strategies for increasing participation by girls in educational programs; includes courses in math and science and vocational education to help prepare girls for jobs that pay wages sufficient to support a family. Title: **SB 123 - Gender Equity** Source: American Chemical Society, State and Local Government Affairs Program, *State and Local Reaction*, December 1994	06/20/94
		EXTENDED DAY (see INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION)	
		FINANCE (also see SPECIAL EDUCATION and FINANCE)	
AL	LEGIS./CODE Enacted July '95	Implements foundation funding program for annual funding of public schools, including allowances for salary, fringe benefits, classroom instructional support and other current expenses; provides for state funding for school transportation programs; provides for capital outlay funding program based on local school system wealth; and provides for phased-out hold-harmless systems losing funding under new foundation program. Title: **HB 468/SB 379 - Public School Funding** Source: Legislative Fiscal Office	
AL	LEGIS./CODE Proposed June '95	Provides for $150 million bond issue for public schools designated for special and critical needs. Title: **HB 597/SB 472 - Bond Issue for Special and Critical Needs** Source: Legislative Fiscal Office	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
AR	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Mandates minimum property tax as partial response to court order to make school funding more equitable. A second law sets 10% income tax surcharge on taxpayers in districts where voters reject minimum tax rate of $225 per $1000 of assessed property value. Legislators may ask voters to approve constitutional amendment giving state power to equalize property tax revenues by redirecting some funds from wealthier districts to poorer ones. Voter approval is considered unlikely. New laws will force 125 of the state's 312 districts to raise property tax. Legislators also debating bill for November '95 ballot initiative on constitutional amendment that would give legislature authority to levy uniform statewide property tax with revenues distributed according to equalization formula. Title: "Minimum Property Tax, Penalty Approved in Arkansas" Source: *Education Week*, April 12, 1995	
AR	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Requires education department to develop "statistical" procedures to ensure timely computations to help equalize funding for public schools. Title: **HB 2145 - Statistics for Funding Equalization** Author: Thicksten Source: *StateNet*	
CT	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Allows state to avoid what would have been mandated $300 million increase in state funding next year. Equalization act folds special education funds into formula and eliminates separate special education reimbursement grants; reduces required foundation level of spending; employs new definition of town wealth that tends to provide more aid than previously to towns with smaller-size families and large elderly populations; adds supplemental grants based on student economic and education need and town density; eliminates hold-harmless grants to wealthy towns but caps percentage of aid decrease they must absorb in year; caps percentage of aid increase in any year; and gives added weight to student enrollment for students whose English proficiency is limited, in addition to economic and educational need. It also creates new grant for towns that demonstrate improvement in student achievement. Title: **Funding Formula** Source: Office of Legislative Research	
GA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Provides $31.2 million for elementary and secondary schools so each school will receive $15,000 for classroom computers and technology. University system will receive $85.8 million in additional funding for technology and equipment purchases and construction. For 1995-96, funding for the voluntary pre-kindergarten program will increase from $78.2 million to $160.6 million, expanding service to all 4-year-olds. About $20 million will go toward various technology purchases in elementary and secondary schools. Title: **Budget Adjustments to Quality Basic Education (QBE) Finance Program** Source: Southern Regional Education Board, *Legislative Report*, May 1995, No. 4	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
GA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Relates to Quality Basic Education Formula: changes provisions relating to education funding; provides for construction reserve trust fund and changes in program weights allotted to state-authorized instructional programs. Title: **HB 129 - Quality Basic Education Formula** Author: Baker Source: *StateNet*	04/18/95
KS	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Increased base state aid per pupil from $3,600 to $3,626; added new correlation weighing which, if phased in over four-year period as intended, will provide 3.6121% enrollment adjustment for all school districts with full-time enrollments of 1,800 or more; increased contingency reserve fund limitation from 2% to 4% of school district general fund budget and relaxed requirements for accessing this spending authority; eliminated provision requiring 25% local option budget cap to be reduced commensurately with base aid increases; provided for three-year extension of special provision which, under certain circumstances, authorizes school district to levy property tax for two years to help defray additional costs of operating new school facilities and made more flexible the enrollment increase standard that must be met to qualify for access to this taxing authority; and established 90% "hold-harmless" provision for 14 school districts expected to experience enrollment losses in 1995-96 because of downsizing of Fort Riley Military Reservation. Title: **HB 2152 - School Finance** Source: Kansas Legislative Research Department	
KS	LEGIS./CODE Enacted March '95	Relates to authority of boards of education to purchase certain items for pupil use and to assess and collect fees for such use. Title: **SB 191 - Student Fees** Author: Committee on Education Source: *StateNet*	
KY	BOARD POLICY Enacted May '95	Defines average daily attendance of pupils for funding purposes under the Support Educational Excellence in Kentucky Program; bases state funding upon average daily attendance; defines minimum age for school attendance; defines attendance credit for moral instruction and 4-H activities; requires teachers to keep attendance records. Title: **702 KAR 7:050 - Average Daily Attendance** Source: *StateNet*	05/01/95
MT	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Revises certain school finance laws; changes status of school district general bonus payments in determining general fund balance operating reserve funds; allows rural school districts to negotiate for voluntary impact payments to district building fund to cover development. Title: **SB 423 - School Finance** Author: Grosfield Source: *StateNet*	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
NM	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Allows school districts flexibility to determine local priorities and make decisions necessary to improve student performance; allows for better accountability at all levels; gives state education department opportunity to better administer public education policy; allows school districts to demonstrate how education dollars are being spent to improve student performance; and allows legislature to evaluate how all components of public school system are working. The Education Appropriation Act also: required state education department to include evaluation of special education services to determine funding; appropriated $3.2 million to state education department to fund special projects to improve student achievement or provide professional development activities; appropriated $225,000 to school districts operating year-round schools as well as districts operating high schools in double sessions. Title: **Education Appropriation Act** Source: Legislative Education Study Committee	
SD	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Repealed existing state aid formula and created new formula driven by average daily membership rather than expenditures. New formula will be phased in over period of years. Title: **HB 1351 - State Aid Formula** Source: Legislative Research Council	
SD	LEGIS./CODE Enacted February '95	Permits school boards to charge for use of school parking facilities. Title: **HB 1137 - Student Fees** Author: Reedy Source: *StateNet*	
UT	LEGIS./CODE Enacted March '95	Defines "school impact fee." Prohibits county, city, town or school district from imposing or collecting school impact fee. Title: **HB 32 - School Impact Fees** Author: Garn Source: *StateNet*	
VT	LEGIS./CODE Enacted August '94	Gives Vermont Higher Education Council responsibility for reviewing practices of institutions of higher education that receive certain federal funds. Purpose is to ensure institutions are meeting federal criteria. Title: **H 238 - Vermont Postsecondary Review Entity** Source: Summary of Acts and Resolutions	05/16/94
WI	LEGIS./CODE Pending June '95	Beginning in 1996-97 school year, would ensure state aid for elementary and secondary education (general equalization aid and all other general and categorical aid programs), plus school levies tax credit would equal 66.7% of partial school revenues (defined as sum of state school aids and school district property tax levy). Title: **AB 150, as amended by the Joint Committee on Finance - State Aid for Elementary and Secondary Education** Source: Legislative Council Staff	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
MI	LEGIS./CODE Proposed March '95	Would repeal code without agreed replacement. Title: **SB 187 - Repeal the School Code of 1976** Source: Michigan Association of School Boards, *Headlines*, March 24, 1995	
MN	LEGIS./CODE Enacted June '95	Will abolish state education department and replace it with new Department of Children, Families and Learning. Designed to coordinate work of several state agencies. Lawmakers approved changes, proposed by Gov. Arne Carlson, during special two-day session in May '95. Education department slated to close in October '95 with employees, funds and programs transferred to new agency. Transfer is expected to be complete by summer 1996. State will retain appointed board of education, but education commissioner will oversee new department. Title: "Minnesota Abolishes Education Department, Merges State Services in New Agency" Source: *Education Week*, June 7, 1995; legislative contacts	
NC	LEGIS./CODE Killed March '95	Called for constitutional amendment to make state superintendent appointed position. Voters would decide in referendum whether to keep elected superintendent or to make position appointed. Bill failed in House by two votes. Title: **SB 5 - State Superintendent Appointed or Elected?** Source: North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, *DPI Legislative Review*, Vol. XII, No. 11, March 30, 1995	
NC	BOARD POLICY Proposed April '95	Proposed reorganization of Department of Public Instruction (DPI) and restructuring of education system. State Board of Education plan presented to joint meeting of House and Senate education committees focuses on ensuring students master basics of reading, mathematics and writing and puts main thrust of school progress at individual school level. Five key recommendations are: (a) reorganize DPI around core state-level education functions and consolidate department into three service areas (Instructional/Accountability Services, Information Technology Resource Services and Finance/Personnel Services); (b) reduce DPI staff from 788 positions to 485 positions by July 1, 1996, to reduce budget by approximately $20.9 million annually; (c) transfer responsibility and funding for Technical Assistance Centers from DPI to local school systems and allow local systems to form voluntary alliances to pool resources and share common services; (d) adopt new accountability plan focusing on performance of individual schools with system of rewards and consequences; (e) propose changes in public school laws to assure effective implementation of board plan. Title: **Reorganizing the Department of Public Instruction** Source: North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, *DPI Legislative Review*, May 4, 1995	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
		IMMIGRANTS	
NY	LEGIS./CODE Proposed June '95	Would require postsecondary education institutions to verify status of each person enrolled or attending. Bill also would prohibit institutions from admitting, enrolling or allowing illegal aliens to attend classes. Title: **S 3089A - Illegal Immigrants** Source: Senate Education Committee	
NY	LEGIS./CODE Proposed April '95	Excludes illegal aliens from attending public elementary and secondary schools; requires school districts to verify legal status of all students and their parents or guardians; requires school districts to provide information regarding the attendance of suspected illegal aliens. Title: **S 3090 - Illegal Immigrants Elementary and Secondary Schools** Author: Padavan Source: *StateNet*	
		INCENTIVES/SANCTIONS	
IN	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Prohibits driver's license or learner's permit from being issued to individual less than 18 years of age who is habitually truant or has withdrawn from school; allows the person to receive driver's license or learner's permit after becoming 18 years of age or returning to school; requires governing body of school corporation to report such individuals to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles semi-annually. Title: **SB 319 - Restrictions On Student Driver's License** Author: Merritt Source: *StateNet*	
MO	LEGIS./CODE Proposed May '95	Raises compulsory attendance age from 16 to 18 and requires any person under 18 who wishes to obtain motor vehicle operator's license or temporary permit to present to Director of Revenue his or her high school diploma or general education development certificate (GED), or documentation that he or she is attending high school and has earned a minimum of 2.25 units of credit the preceding semester, is enrolled in special education program, private or home school program, approved alternative curriculum for at-risk students or is attempting to obtain a GED. Bill requires school superintendents or chief administrative officers of nonpublic schools or, in the case of home-schooled students, parents to provide documentation of enrollment status and progress toward graduation. If student drops out of school, has 10 or more consecutive unexcused absences or 15 unexcused absences in a semester, the school or parent of a home-schooled student must notify the Department of Revenue, which then will notify the student that his or her operator's license will be suspended within 30 days if he or she does not provide required documentation. Bill also permits local school boards to decline to pursue revocation of emancipated minor's driver's license if they determine it is in the minor's best interest to have a license. The bill also requires parental approval before individuals under the age of 18 who are not emancipated minors may receive operator's license and contains provisions whereby parents of such children may petition the circuit court to revoke their children's operator licenses. Title: **HB 158 - School Attendance** Author: Kreider Source: House Research Division	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
VA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Establishes long-term goal to reduce pupil-teacher ratio to 20 to 1 in grades K-3 in schools where 25-49% of students participate in federal lunch program, and to 18 to 1 in schools with more than 50% of students in free lunch program. Also will provide preschool programs for at-risk 4-year-olds not served in programs such as Head Start. Title: **Virginia Omnibus Education Act of 1995** Source: Southern Regional Education Board, *Legislative Report*, May 1995, No. 4	
		INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION	
MS	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	**Establishes Support Our Students (S.O.S.) Program within State Department of Education to award grants to neighborhood and community-based organizations that provide programs for high-quality after-school programs for children in grades K-9 and comprehensive delivery of services by public and nonpublic agencies to those children; designed to reduce number of "latchkey" children.** Title: **SB 2507 - After School Programs** Author: Turner Source: *StateNet*	
OH	LEGIS./CODE Enacted 1993	In conjunction with Governor's Education Management (GEM) Council, directs interagency collaboration within the state. Children's cabinet brings together cabinet-level heads of state agencies, while GEM council brings together leaders from the Ohio business community. Title: **HB 152 - Ohio Family First and Children's Cabinet Council** Source: *State-Level K-12 Education Reform Activities*, ECS	
UT	LEGIS./CODE Enacted March '95	Provides for coordination of education services with human service programs subject to licensure; requires program to provide satisfactory evidence that children served will receive appropriate education services; provides for approval process and license revocation. Title: **HB 243 - Education Collaboration With Human Services** Author: Tyler Source: *StateNet*	
VT	LEGIS./CODE Enacted July '94	Directs Vermont Student Assistance Corporation (VSAC) to provide career, education and financial aid counseling and information services; authorizes VSAC to participate in Federal Direct Loan Program as servicer and guarantor; and authorizes VSAC to enter into interest rate exchange agreements. Title: **S 140 - Educational and Financial Aid Counseling** Source: Summary of acts and resolutions	07/01/94

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
IN	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Requires school corporation to allow parents or guardians of students to inspect any instructional materials used in connection with analysis, evaluation, program survey concerning certain beliefs, affiliations, attitudes, behaviors and habits. Requires written consent of parent or guardian of unemancipated student or of student if adult or emancipated minor before student may participate in the above. Title: **HB 1625 - Inspection of Instructional Materials** Author: Frizzell Source: *StateNet*	
MT	STUDY In progress	Study of parents, teachers and school administrators to determine views on status of and need for parent involvement in education. Results will be used to develop recommendations for state and local policymakers. Title: "A Study of Parent Involvement in Montana Schools" Source: Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education, 1993	05/01/95
ND	LEGIS./CODE Enacted March '95	Relates to destruction of school property and parental responsibility. Title: **SB 2458 - Destruction of School Property** Author: Grindberg Source: *StateNet*	
NE	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '94	Encourages parental involvement in public schools and requires each school district to adopt policy defining rights of parents as they relate to: (a) access to textbooks, tests and curriculum materials; (b) provisions for attending and monitoring courses, assemblies, counseling sessions and instructional activities; (c) filing requests to exempt students from testing, classroom instruction and other activities parents find objectionable; (d) access to student or school records; (e) testing policies; and (f) student participation in surveys. Policies must be reviewed annually and altered or reaffirmed following public hearing. Thought to be only legislation of its kind in nation. Title: **L 1161 - Parental Involvement** Author: Withem Source: *StateNet*; Nebraska State Legislature *Legislative Summary* 1994	
NY	LEGIS./CODE Proposed June '95	Enacts "Parent and Pupil Rights Act" whereby all instructional material used in connection with any "psychiatric or psychological research or experimentation program or project," as defined, in elementary or secondary school, shall be available for inspection by parents or guardians; also prohibits such programs or projects whose purpose is to reveal political affiliations, religious beliefs and practices, sexual behavior and attitudes, and other listed privileged information. Title: **AB 5345/SB 3813 - Parent and Pupil Rights Act** Author: Seminerio Source: *StateNet*	
OR	LEGIS./CODE Enacted 1993	Requires school districts to provide opportunities for parents to be involved in school goals and decisionmaking; expects employers to recognize value of parents and community members participating in education process; encourages employers to extend appropriate leave to parents/guardians to allow greater participation during school hours. Title: **329.125 - Policy on Parental Participation** Source: Statute	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
GA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Changes organization of the Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission and manner of selecting its executive director and provides for legislative findings. Title: **SB 305 - Nonpublic Postsecondary Education** Author: Hill Source: *StateNet*	
MN	PROGRAM Active April '95	Winona State University is the first public university in Minnesota to guarantee students will graduate in four years. Winona State, which in recent years has adopted quality management principles, established a "residential college" within the university and strengthened its technology program. The university will guarantee students access to all classes necessary for a four-year degree. If the school fails to do so, it will cover tuition costs for the required courses beyond four years. Winona State officials hope the guarantee will encourage students to complete their degrees in four years and thereby help improve the school's reputation. Title: "Minnesota College Offers Guarantee" Source: *Daily Report Card*, April 10, 1995	
MS	LEGIS./CODE Enacted March '95	Clarifies that any student who has graduated from high school with qualifying grade-point average shall be fully eligible for admission into public community/junior college tech-prep programs. Title: **SB 2961 - Community College/Tech-Prep Program Admission Requirements** Author: Musgrove Source: *StateNet*	
MT	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Constitutional referendum to replace board of regents with state education commission, appointed by governor, and to replace office of higher education commissioner with state department of education with director appointed by governor. Title: **HB 229 - Education Governance** Author: Hanson Source: Legislative Council	
VA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Relates to "Advancement Via Determination Programs" designed to increase number of minority and low-income students who attend college by preparing them for college in high school. Title: **SB 554 - Preparation of At-Risk Students for Higher Education** Author: Lambert Source: *StateNet*	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
NC	LEGIS./CODE Proposed March '95	Amends bill by adding language indicating purpose is to afford students and teachers moment of quiet reflection at beginning of day, to create boundary between school time and non-school time, and to set tone of classroom decorum that will be conducive to discipline and learning. Title: **H 202 - Moment of Silence** Source: North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, *DPI Legislative Review*, March 23, 1995, Vol. XII, No. 10	
NM	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Allows students in public schools to engage in student-initiated moments of silent meditation. Title: **Meditation in Public Schools Act** Source: Legislative Education Study Committee	
VA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '94	Allows students to voluntarily participate in student-initiated prayer. Title: **HB 1098 and HB 1274 - Student-Initiated Prayer** Author: Brickley and Miller Source: *StateNet*	
RESTRUCTURED SCHOOLS (see ASSESSMENT/TESTING, EDUCATION EXCELLENCE/REFORM and SITE-BASED MANAGEMENT)			
SAFETY/CRIME/VIOLENCE (also see ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS and DISCIPLINE)			
AK	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Increases penalty for possessing deadly weapon on school grounds and mandates minimum one-year expulsion of student possessing firearm on school grounds. Title: **HB 28 - Possession of Deadly Weapon on School Grounds** Source: Alaska Department of Education, *Information Exchange*, May 19, 1995	
AR	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Requires public school principals to report all assaults or other violent criminal acts against teachers to appropriate local law enforcement agency. Title: **HB 1422 - Reporting Assaults Against Teachers** Author: Kidd Source: *StateNet*	
AR	LEGIS./CODE Enacted March '95	Requires minimum one-year expulsion for students who bring firearms and other weapons to school. Title: **SB 438 - Safety** Author: Mahony Source: *StateNet*	
AR	LEGIS./CODE Enacted 1993	Denies driver's license to minors who commit crime with weapon at school or on school bus. Title: **Act 264 (SB 69)** Source: Arkansas School Boards Association	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
CO	LEGIS./CODE Enacted 1993	Makes it illegal for anyone under age 18 to knowingly have handguns in their possession. Such possession is misdemeanor for first offense and felony for subsequent offenses. Act also bars persons from providing handguns to minors and requires parents who know their children have a handgun in their possession to make reasonable effort to prevent violation. Also exempts individuals possessing firearms for hunting or other sports or if they have permission of parent, grandparent or guardian to possess weapon. Title: **HB 93S-1001 - Possession of Handguns by Persons Under the Age of 18** Source: Council of State Governments (Youth Violence - A Summary of Presentations at the May 20-21, 1994, Meeting of the Education Committee)	
GA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted March '94	Adds state and federal appellate judges to list of persons exempt from certain provisions of law relating to carrying weapons at school functions or on school property. Title: **HB 1209 - Carrying and Possession of Firearms** Author: Dobbs Source: *StateNet*	
HI	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Relates to federal law which requires states to exclude from school for one year students found in possession of firearm while attending school. Enabling legislation passed by the legislature allows Hawaii's school superintendent to modify this exclusion on a case-by-case basis and requires him or her to provide alternative education if necessary and appropriate. Title: **SB 647/HB 2 - Violence in the Schools** Source: Senate Majority Office	
IA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '94	Protects rights and responsibility of school employees to use "reasonable force" to maintain order and control. Specifically, the bill raises legal standard for civil lawsuits brought against employees; persons who sue teachers must show "clear and convincing" evidence that the teacher used excessive force instead of merely showing a "preponderance" of evidence. Purpose is to reduce number of unfounded claims of physical assault that have dogged educators in recent years. Another provision requires districts to suspend any student who commits violent act against school employee; board then decides whether to expel that student. Title: **Safe Schools Bill** Source: Iowa State Education Association, *Communique*, Vol 31, No 7, April/May 1994	
IA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted June '94	Directs Department of Education to develop statewide violence prevention program, permits school districts to use Educational Excellence funds for conflict resolution and anger-management programs for staff and students, authorizes search of student lockers without advance notice under certain circumstances and appropriates funds to Department of Human Services for school-based programs addressing truancy and school behavioral problems. Title: **SB 2319 - Juvenile Justice** Source: Legislative Service Bureau, *Legislative Summary 1994*	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
ID	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Fulfills requirements for state to receive federal funds under the Gun-Free Schools Act by ensuring that any student who brings weapons to school shall be expelled for at least one year. Title: **SB 1189aa - Gun-Free Schools** Source: Idaho Legislative Services	
IN	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Mandates minimum one-year expulsion of students possessing firearm on school property. Permits one-year expulsion for possession of other deadly weapons on school property and permits suspension of student who commits violent act in the community until the case is disposed of by juvenile or criminal court. Title: **SB 631 - Expulsion** Author: Sinks Source: *StateNet*	
KS	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Requires school district and certain accredited nonpublic school governing boards to adopt written policy providing for minimum one-year expulsion of student possessing weapon at school, on school property or at school-supervised activity. Title: **SB 317 - Expulsion of Pupil for One Year** Author: Committee on Education Source: Kansas Legislative Research Department	
KS	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '94	Establishes procedures and requirements concerning reporting by school personnel of criminal acts or potential criminal acts at school, on school property or at school-supervised activities to state or local law enforcement agencies. Title: **HB 2359 - Kansas School Safety and Security Act** Source: Kansas Legislative Research Department	
MD	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Requires law-enforcement officials to notify local superintendents within 24 hours if students in their districts are arrested for violent crimes. Title: "Maryland Legislative Update" Source: *Education Week*, May 17, 1995	
MD	LEGIS./CODE Enacted June '95	Requires county school superintendent to expel for minimum of one year any student who brings firearm onto school property. County superintendent may specify, on a case-by-case basis, shorter period of expulsion or alternative education setting, if approved by the county board. Title: **SB 145, Chapter 347 - Federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act** Source: Department of Legislative Reference	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
ME	LEGIS./CODE Enacted 1993	Allows district officials, if needed for the peace and usefulness of a school, to expel student: (a) who is deliberately disobedient or disorderly; (b) who commits violent acts; (c) who possesses on school property firearm without permission of school official; (d) who uses any other dangerous weapon to cause injury or accompanies use of weapon with threat to cause injury; or (e) who possesses, furnishes or trafficks in any scheduled drug. Student may be readmitted on satisfactory evidence that the behavior will not likely recur. School board may authorize principal to suspend students up to maximum of 10 days for infractions of school rules. Also permits board to develop policy requiring student who violates substance-abuse or possession rules to participate in substance-abuse services. Title: **20-A 1001 - Students Expelled or Suspended** Source: Maine Revised Statutes Annotated, Vol. 11, Title 20, 20-a, 1994 Cumulative Pocket Part	
MI	LEGIS./CODE Enacted January '95	Requires expulsion of students carrying guns on school grounds. Prosecution and conviction not necessary to impose expulsion, which also applies to students committing rape or arson at school. Expelled students can request hearing to be readmitted, but cannot attend school in the meantime. Does not establish alternative education programs for students carrying guns. Title: "Michigan Gun Law Means Automatic Expulsion" Source: *Education Week*, January 11, 1995	
MS	LEGIS./CODE Enacted March '95	Provides for automatic expulsion of any student who possesses any controlled substance in violation of federal law, knife, handgun, other firearm or other instrument considered to be dangerous and capable of causing bodily harm; or who commits violent act on education property. Such expulsion shall take effect immediately subject to constitutional rights of due process, which shall include student's right to appeal to local school board. Title: **SB 2947 - Expulsion** Author: Musgrove Source: *StateNet*	
MT	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Establishes individual licensure for lawful possession of firearm (person who has not been convicted of violent, felony crime and who is lawfully able to own or possess firearm under the Montana Constitution) for the purpose of the Federal Gun-Free School Zones Act of 1990. Title: **HB 332 - Possession of Firearms** Author: Clark Source: *StateNet*	
MT	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Requires every school board to have policy for minimum one-year expulsion of student who brings firearm to school. Title: **HB 167 - Expulsion of Students with Firearms** Source: Legislative Council	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
NC	LEGIS./CODE Proposed January '95	Amends law to permit expulsion of student 14 years or older who had been adjudicated delinquent for committing offense that would be felony if committed by adult, and requires 365-day suspension for student who brings firearm onto school property. Title: **S 51 - Remove Dangerous Students From School** Source: North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, *DPI Review*, January 1995	08/01/95
ND	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Provides for expulsion of student bringing firearm onto school property. Title: **HB 1178 - Student Expulsion** Author: Carlisle Source: *StateNet*	
NE	LEGIS./CODE Enacted June '95	Changes provisions for alternative education placement; eliminates reimbursement provisions; changes provisions relating to expulsion and grounds for discipline; requires policy relating to firearm violations. Title: **L 658 - Student Discipline Act** Author: Pirsch Source: *StateNet*	06/07/95
NJ	PROGRAM Active January '95	Calls for alternative education programs for potentially dangerous students under "safe schools" initiative. Another provision of the plan that would mandate a one-year suspension for students who bring firearms to school or are convicted of firearms offense. About half of the alternative programs have been established at community colleges; others will operate out of vocational technical centers, separate schools or, at a minimum, school wings that segregate potentially dangerous students from others. Title: "Alternative Education Programs" Source: *Education Week*, January 18, 1995	
NM	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Requires each school district to adopt policy to expel for at least one year any student who knowingly brings weapon to school. Title: **H 274 - Weapon Free Schools** Source: National Education Association of New Mexico, *The Advocates' Voice*, May 9, 1995, Vol. 8, No. 6	
NY	LEGIS./CODE Enacted July '95	Would bring New York State schools into conformity with federal Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994, providing further that suspended student and person in parental relation to that pupil may request formal conference with school principal to discuss the matter. School superintendents would have power to modify suspension of each student on case-by-case basis. Title: **S 4140** Author: Cook Source: Senate Education Committee	
NY	LEGIS./CODE Proposed June '95	Would make assaults on teachers and other school employees felonies to provide education workers same protections currently afforded to police officers and firefighters. Title: **S 1410 - Violence In Schools** Source: Senate Education Committee	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
OH	LEGIS./CODE Pending March '95	Requires school districts to expel for at least one year students who bring weapons to school and permits schools to temporarily deny admission to student expelled from other districts until expulsion period expires. Title: **SB 47 - Gun-Free Schools Act** Source: Ohio Schools Boards Association, *Legislative Report*, January 30, 1995	
PA	LEGIS./CODE Pending August '95	Requires, prior to admission to any public school in state, parent to provide sworn statement indicating if and why his/her child has been suspended or expelled from any public or private school for violation of policies related to drugs, alcohol, weapons, willful infliction of injury or acts of violence against person or property. Sworn statement must indicate whether child has been adjudicated delinquent under state juvenile laws or convicted as adult offender. Title: **HB 38 - Student Records/Reports of Acts of Violence** Source: Pennsylvania Association of School Administrators, *PASA Flyer*, February 1995, Vol. XXXVIII, No. VIII	
TN	LEGIS./CODE Enacted June '94	Encourages local school systems to develop alternative programs for juvenile offenders in cooperation with juvenile courts, law enforcement agencies and community service agencies. Title: **SJR 298 - Alternative Programs for Juvenile Offenders** Author: Womack Source: Senate Education Committee, *Legislative Summary 1994*	
UT	LEGIS./CODE Enacted March '95	Appropriates $300,000 to Gang Prevention and Intervention Program in public schools. Title: **HB 245 - Gang Prevention** Author: Short Source: *StateNet*	
VA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Requires minimum one-year expulsion of any student determined by school board to have brought firearm onto school property or to school-sponsored activity. Based on facts of particular case, school boards may determine that special circumstances exist and another disciplinary action or term of expulsion is appropriate. Title: **HB 1614, Chapter 724 22.1-277.01 - Gun-Free Schools Act** Author: Cooper Source: Commonwealth of Virginia, Division of Legislative Services	07/01/95
VA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Requires intake officer to notify division superintendent whenever juvenile is arrested and charged with delinquent act involving death, weapons, drugs, assaults, woundings, arson or burglary. Title: **Notice of Juvenile Arrest** Source: Virginia General Assembly 1995 Session Summary	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
VA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Requires school boards to expel for at least one year any student who brings firearm onto school property or to school-sponsored activity. School boards may determine another disciplinary action or term of expulsion is more appropriate. They also are authorized to require such students to attend alternative education program. (Became law without governor's signature.) Title: **SB 874 - Expulsion** Author: Norment Source: *StateNet*	
VT	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Requires school boards to adopt policies regarding weapons possession; requires policies to include expulsion of one year and reporting of incident to law enforcement agency if student brings weapon, as defined in the federal act, to school. Title: **HB 506** Author: Committee on Education Source: *StateNet*	
WI	GOVERNOR'S PROPOSAL Proposed February '95	Would increase penalties for violence around school buildings and school-related activities and authorize school boards to discipline, suspend or expel pupils for actions while traveling to or from school. Title: **School Violence; Proposed Budget 1995-97** Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, *Education Forward*, March 1995	
WV	LEGIS./CODE Enacted March '95	Calls for one-year expulsion of students who bring gun, knife or other deadly weapon to school. Students who sell illegal drugs on school grounds also will face automatic one-year expulsion. Districts also have authority to expel students for one year for drug possession. Schools will work with county and state officials to design alternative settings for expelled students. Title: "Safe School Law" Source: *Education Week*, March 22, 1995	
WV	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Requires parents enrolling student in school to provide sworn statement indicating whether student is under suspension or expulsion from another school. Students under disciplinary sanctions will not be admitted until suspension or expulsion has expired. Bill also calls for school improvement councils to develop guidelines for instruction and rehabilitation of disruptive students and submit them to countywide safe schools council. Council, composed of education, law enforcement, health and human resources, and behavioral health services officials, will forward guidelines, comments and recommendations to local school board. Title: **Safe Schools Bill** Source: Southern Regional Education Board, *Legislative Report*, May 1995, No. 4	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
WY	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Mandates expulsion of students possessing, using, transferring or selling deadly weapons on school property; requires school districts to expel students from school for one year. Also allows district superintendent to modify the expulsion period on case-by-case basis and to notify district attorney of violations. Does not prohibit a district from providing education services in alternative setting as required under federal law. Title: **SF 0037 - Deadly Weapons on School Property** Source: Wyoming State Legislature	
SCHEDULING (SCHOOL CALENDAR) (see INSTRUCTION METHODS)			
SCHOOL FACILITIES			
NH	LEGIS./CODE Proposed April '94	Requires Division of Public Health Services, Department of Health and Human Services, to conduct tests to determine indoor air quality in state public education facilities. Title: **HB 1568 - Air Quality in Educational Facilities** Author: Gilmore Source: *StateNet*	
VA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '94	Relates to clean indoor air in public schools; prohibits smoking in public schools, effective July 1, 1995. Title: **HB 249 - School Facilities** Author: Darner Source: *StateNet*	
SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT (see EDUCATION EXCELLENCE/REFORM)			
SECONDARY EDUCATION			
AR	LEGIS./CODE Enacted March '95	Appropriates funds to Department of Higher Education for reports of college achievement of high school graduates. Title: **SB 615 - Reporting College Achievement of High School Graduates** Author: Committee on Joint Budget Source: *StateNet*	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
GA	BOARD POLICY Approved February '94	Beginning with class of 1999, requires Georgia high school students to choose between vocational and college-prep coursework. College prep: 17 required courses and four electives; requirements include algebra I and II, geometry, two years of foreign language, three years of science (two lab-based) and college-prep English classes; diploma corresponds with entrance requirements for public colleges and universities. Without it, would-be college students must take non-credit remedial courses before beginning college work. Vocational: 19 required courses and two electives; must complete four vocational courses, three of them in single specialty such as business, health occupations or graphic arts; two years of math, including algebra I or applied math courses that cover the same material, and three years of science. Efforts under way at half state's high schools to inject more math, science, reading and writing skills into vocational courses through practical lessons. General requirements: 15 required courses and six electives; two years of math and three of science. Title: "Dumping General Diplomas Receives Cautious Approval" Source: *Atlanta Journal*, April 15, 1994	
LA	LEGIS./CODE Proposed April '95	Would require private and parochial school students to join public school students in passing exit exam before graduation. Title: **HB 345 - Exit Exam** Source: Louisiana House of Representatives, Legislative Services, *The Advocate*, April 27, 1995	
NM	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Allows participation on athletic team or in sport during school day to count toward fulfillment of physical education requirement; requires state competency examinations (which students must pass to receive high school diploma) to include section on U.S. and state Constitutions. Title: **Changes in Graduation Requirements** Source: Legislative Education Study Committee	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
		SEXUAL HARASSMENT	
VT	LEGIS./CODE Enacted August '94	Defines harassment on basis of race, creed, color, national origin, marital status, sex, sexual orientation or disability and requires independent and public schools, University of Vermont and state colleges adopt policies prohibiting harassment of students and establishing clear procedures for receiving and handling complaints of harassment of students. Also directs commissioner of education to work with Governor's Commission on Women and Human Rights Commission to develop model policies and procedures schools could use to fulfill requirements of this act. Title: **S313 - Harassment** Source: Summary of Acts and Resolutions	07/01/94
		SITE-BASED MANAGEMENT	
AR	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Requires school districts to adopt policies for implementing site-based decisionmaking in district schools. Title: **HB 1933 - Site-Based Management** Author: Argue Source: *StateNet*	
KS	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Made permanent school-site council mandate, required state board by January 1, 1997, to prepare state-level and building-level school performance "report cards." Title: **HB 2173 - Elementary and Secondary** Source: Kansas Legislative Research Department	
ND	LEGIS./CODE Enacted March '95	Relates to student performance standards and school district policies and plans for participatory school decisionmaking. Title: **HB 1270 - Performance Standards and Assessments** Author: Grosz Source: *StateNet*	
		SOCIAL ISSUES	
DE	LEGIS./CODE Proposed April '95	Would institute governor's welfare reform plan known as "A Better Chance." Emphasizes work and parental responsibility and would offer temporary financial assistance and support services to help parents enter the workforce. Governor hoping legislation will set stage for federal approval of welfare reform waiver request submitted to U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in January. Title: "A Better Chance - Revamping the Welfare System" Source: National Governors' Association, *Governors' Bulletin*, May 1, 1995	
		SPECIAL EDUCATION (also see ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION and DISCIPLINE)	
CT	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Education equalization act folds special education funds into formula and eliminates separate special education reimbursement grants. Title: **Funding Formula** Source: Office of Legislative Research	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
MD	LEGIS./CODE Enacted June '95	Improves transition services available to developmentally disabled students by establishing Interagency State Plan for Transitioning Students with Disabilities in Division of Rehabilitative Services. Approximately 300 students with developmental disabilities leave public school system at age 21 each year. Division of Rehabilitative Services in State Department of Education provides services to help them live and work independently. Plan designed to improve structure, quality and availability of transition services. Title: **HB 1354, Chapter 435 - Transitioning Students with Disabilities** Source: Department of Legislative Reference	
MN	LEGIS./CODE Proposed June '95	Changes special education funding formulas beginning 1995-96 school year. Revenue to be based on district's 1994-95 revenue adjusted for enrollment growth plus 2% growth factor. Previous special education funding based on percent of teacher's salaries in current school year. Property tax levies for special education funding will be eliminated over four-year period and state aid will rise to 100% by year 2000. Funding to come from phasing out $145 million in property tax relief aids. Title: **Special Education Funding Formulas** Source: Minnesota House Ways and Means Committee	
ND	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Relates to per-student payments for special education and to school district liability for special needs students. Title: **SB 2063 - Special Education Funding** Author: Scherber Source: *StateNet*	
ND	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Changes special education funding from system of reimbursing for expenses incurred to one of lump-sum payments to districts based on enrollment. Title: "North Dakota Legislative Update" Source: *Education Week*, May 17, 1995	
NM	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Requires State Department of Education to redefine special education-related services to include evaluation to determine funding; appropriates $3.2 million to education department for special projects to include, among others, public-service learning initiatives, professional development activities and school-to-work initiatives; appropriates $225,000 for school districts operating year-round schools and high schools in double sessions. Title: **Education Appropriation Act** Source: Legislative Education Study Committee	
SD	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Revises state's formula for aid to special education. Title: **HB 1354** Source: Legislative Research Council	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
WI	LEGIS./CODE Proposed June '95	Specifies that "significant developmental delay" in a child who is 3, 4 or 5 years old is handicapping condition that may qualify child for special education. Department of Public Instruction required to conduct in-service training during 1995-97 biennium for early childhood special education teachers and directors to ensure that only children meeting criteria established by department, by rule, are identified. Title: **AB 103, as amended by Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 - Developmental Delay** Source: Legislative Council Staff	
STANDARDS (also see ACCOUNTABILITY, ASSESSMENT/TESTING and OUTCOMES-BASED EDUCATION)			
AZ	BOARD POLICY Approved April '95	Delayed setting of high school graduation standards for one year. Last year, board agreed to require graduates to show competence in core subject areas, but state superintendent stopped part of Arizona Student Assessment Program because of questions about reliability. Title: "Arizona Board Delays Setting High School Standards" Source: *Education Week*, April 12, 1995	
CO	LEGIS./CODE Proposed March '95	Would delay adoption of state model content standards for history. Proponents want to avoid controversy that has occurred at national level over history standards. Title: **HB 1320 - State Model Content Standards** Source: *Colorado Education Association Journal*, March/April 1995, Vol. 10, No. 4	
DE	BOARD POLICY Enacted June '95	Sets tougher academic standards in mathematics, science, social studies and English-language arts. Three years ago, Delaware became one of first states to begin drafting more rigorous content standards for grades K-12 and gave teachers unusually high level of participation in the process. Title: "Delaware Approves Standards" Source: *Education Week*, June 14, 1995	
UT	LEGIS./CODE Enacted February '95	Encourages State Board of Education to form task force to develop standards for assessing student competence and awarding credit to students for attendance at nonaccredited schools. Intent is to recommend that state board grant diplomas to students whose education has included attendance at nonaccredited schools. Title: **HCR 3 - Assessment Standards** Author: Atkinson Source: *StateNet*	
STUDENT RIGHTS (also see DISCIPLINE, PARENT/FAMILY and SAFETY/CRIME/VIOLENCE, SCHOOL)			
CT	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Prohibits students from having or using remotely activated paging devices in public schools without written permission of principal. Principal can grant permission only if student, parent or guardian demonstrates there is reasonable basis for using pager. Title: **Beepers** Source: Office of Legislative Research	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
MD	LEGIS./CODE Enacted June '95	Makes it discretionary rather than mandatory for law enforcement officer to arrest individual who unlawfully possesses portable pager on school property. Officer must immediately inquire as to why individual possesses pager and may arrest him or her. Law, originally passed to combat drug trade in schools, had resulted in arrest of student given pager by his parents so they could contact him in emergency. Title: **SB 545, Chapter 391 - Portable Pagers** Source: Department of Legislative Reference	
TN	LEGIS./CODE Enacted June '94	Lowers standard to conduct searches on school property from "probable cause" and "reasonable cause" to "reasonable suspicion." Such searches include lockers, cars in school parking lots, containers brought on school property by students and visitors, and students and visitors themselves. Search methods include metal detectors and drug dogs. Items to be sought in search include drugs, drug paraphernalia, weapons and explosives. Title: **SB 1845 - School Searches** Author: Haynes Source: Senate Education Committee, *Legislative Summaries 1994*	
SUPERINTENDENT (also see ADMINISTRATOR/PRINCIPAL and GOVERNANCE)			
NY	LEGIS./CODE Passed June '95	Would require superintendent's salary not be based on or tied to provisions of collective bargaining agreements. Because superintendents often represent school board in contract negotiations with teachers and other district employees, linking superintendent's salary increase to any other contractual agreement can appear as conflict of interest. Title: **A 1428/S 1043 - Superintendent's Salaries** Source: Senate Education Committee	
WI	LEGIS./CODE Proposed June '95	Repeals July 1, 1999, sunset date for provision of current law which permits Milwaukee Board of School Directors to elect unlicensed superintendent or business manager. Title: **AB 150, as amended by the Joint Committee on Finance - Superintendent** Source: Legislative Council Staff	
SYSTEMIC CHANGE (see EDUCATION EXCELLENCE/REFORM)			
TEACHER CERTIFICATION			
AL	LEGIS./CODE Proposed June '95	Requires passing of nationally normed teacher examination as condition of graduation from school or college of education in state and requires graduates of out-of-state programs who apply for Alabama certification to pass same nationally normed teacher examination Title: **HB 467/SB 389 - Teacher Certification** Source: Legislative Fiscal Office	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
NC	LEGIS./CODE Proposed April '95	Establishes second method of certifying teachers who enter profession laterally. Such persons first must pass examination to determine if they possess basic skills in reading, writing and mathematics; if person passes, he or she may be granted one-year teaching certificate for internship. To teach in kindergarten through grade 5, person must have bachelor's degree in list of subjects from college accredited by Southern Association of Colleges and Universities; to teach in higher grade, person's degree must be in subject taught. If one-year internship is successful, certification is granted. Title: **H 881 - Alternative Teacher Certification** Source: North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, *DPI Review*, April 20, 1995	
		TEACHER COMPENSATION	
CO	LEGIS./CODE Proposed January '95	Requires school boards to adopt policies for determining salaries for all licensed and nonlicensed employees. Board shall adopt salary policies in connection with or prior to adoption of budget for following fiscal year. Policies shall be adopted by resolution and communicated to all licensed and nonlicensed employees in district. Following adoption of salary policies, board shall review and revise policies as needed. Title: **HB 95-1014 - Authorization of School Districts to Establish Salary Policies** Author: Sullivan Source: Colorado Legislature	07/01/95
MS	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Revises salary scale for public school teachers, increases allotment of funds for supportive services and increases minimum salary to be paid to assistant teaching instructors. Title: **SB 2791 - Teacher Compensation** Author: Lee Source: *StateNet*	
TN	COURT ACTION Completed 1995	Ordered state to equalize teachers' salaries in addition to revamping overall funding plan. New funding plan, ordered by the state supreme court, did not include mechanism for equalizing teachers' salaries, which differ by about $16,000 between wealthy and poor districts. Title: "Court Orders Tennessee to Equalize Teacher Salaries" Source: *Education Week*, March 1, 1995	
		TEACHER CONTRACTS	
AK	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Increases probationary period before teacher acquires tenure from two to four years; provides that tenured teacher can be laid off for enrollment decreases or verified financial emergencies; creates retirement incentive program for teachers who qualify for retirement by August 1, 1996. Title: **HB 217 - Teacher Tenure** Source: Alaska Department of Education, *Information Exchange*, May 19, 1995	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
CT	LEGIS./CODE Proposed May '95	Would increase time it takes teachers to attain tenure from three to four years, reduce maximum amount of time tenured teacher termination proceedings can take, and strengthen teacher evaluation requirements. Title: **Tenure** Source: Office of Legislative Research	
NC	LEGIS./CODE Proposed March '95	Establishes ad hoc group to recommend alternatives and guidelines to supplant current tenure system. Business lobby leaders said tenure has outlived usefulness and favors performance-based appraisals for teachers. State associations of school boards, administrators and independent business owners also spoke in favor of legislation to abolish tenure. Teachers said current Fair Employment and Dismissal Act (tenure) offers principals opportunity to dismiss teachers, if they will use that authority. Title: **HB 210 - Phase Out Teacher Tenure** Source: North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, *DPI Legislative Review*, March 23, 1995, Vol. XII, No. 10	
NJ	LEGIS./CODE Proposed November '94	Would require record checks of 70,000 state school employees hired before 1987 by expanding 1986 New Jersey Criminal Background Check Law, which requires all new applicants to be checked for past criminal convictions, to cover veteran employees. Title: "New Jersey Bill Requires Criminal Checks for Employees" Source: *Education Week*, November 19, 1994	
NY	LEGIS./CODE Enacted June '95	Includes teachers and other education employees in retirement incentive law. Related bill passed by Senate and Assembly would remove law's provision requiring elimination of position of education employee who participated in early retirement incentive program. Provision posed difficulties for school districts trying to maintain adequate student/teacher ratios. By removing this requirement, bill would give education employers flexibility in staffing without losing savings provided by early retirement program. Title: **S 5188/A 7745, Chapter 74 - Teacher Retirement Incentive** Source: Senate Education Committee	
NY	LEGIS./CODE Proposed June '95	Would give school boards and Boards of Cooperative Educational Services right to screen job applicants against records of child abuse and maltreatment in state central register, criminal history records of Division of Criminal Justice Services and FBI fingerprint records. Title: **S 2138 - Screening School Employees** Source: Senate Education Committee	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
OH	LEGIS./CODE Proposed April '95	Keeps tenure and teacher evaluation proposals in executive budget. Tenure changes require "periodic evaluation of all classroom teachers and add "failure to eliminate unsatisfactory performance" to list of reasons for terminating tenured teacher. House added language to evaluation provision that prevents school boards from discriminating against teachers on basis of cost of their salaries and benefits, any lawful activity under ORC Chapter 4117 or lawful exercise of First Amendment rights. Title: **Tenure 1995** Source: Ohio School Boards Association, *Legislative Report*, April 10, 1995	
SD	LEGIS./CODE Enacted 1995	Repeals tenure laws as part of major education reform. Allows for termination at any time for just cause, including poor performance, incompetency, gross immorality, unprofessional conduct, insubordination, neglect of duty or violation of any district policy or regulation. Probationary period of three years; after teacher is in or beyond fourth consecutive term of employment, applies to any nonrenewal. Collective bargaining agreements do not supersede right to terminate. Title: **SDCL 13-43-6.1-6.6 - Teacher Tenure** Source: Legislative Reference Division	01/01/97
WI	LEGIS./CODE Proposed April '95	Repeals state requirement that Milwaukee county teachers as well as principals be granted tenure following third consecutive year of employment. As passed by Senate, bill includes amendment allowing Milwaukee County districts without just-cause provisions in contracts to negotiate those provisions. Amendment prohibits Milwaukee County districts from claiming just-cause provisions are economic issues in contract deliberations. Title: **SB 37 - Tenure 95** Source: Wisconsin Association of School Boards, *Legislative Alert*, April 6, 1995	
WI	LEGIS./CODE Proposed June '95	Repeals teacher tenure laws making teachers employed by the Milwaukee Public Schools or other school districts in Milwaukee county permanent employees (i.e., may be discharged only for good cause upon gaining of fourth contract after continuous and successful three-year probation). Title: **SB 37, as amended by Senate Amendment 1 - Teacher Tenure** Source: Legislative Council Staff	
		TEACHER STAFF DEVELOPMENT/INSERVICE	
AR	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Requires Department of Education to study existing professional development opportunities in public schools and report to Joint Interim Committee on Education. Title: **HB 2075 - Professional Development Opportunities Study** Author: Argue Source: *StateNet*	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
AR	LEGIS./CODE Vetoed April '95	Requires last five school days of year be devoted to teacher planning for implementation of ACA 6-15-1001, meeting of National Education Goals. Title: **SB 539 - Teacher Planning** Author: Hardin Source: *StateNet*	
		TECHNOLOGY	
AR	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Establishes Distance Learning Demonstration Project to improve course offerings available to high school students. Title: **HB 2081 - Distance Learning Project** Author: Hudson Source: *StateNet*	
AR	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Appropriates funds to Office of the Governor for development of statewide distance learning and telemedicine network. Title: **SB 769 - Distance Learning Funding** Author: Gordon Source: *StateNet*	
GA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Provides $31.2 million for elementary and secondary schools to allow each school in state to receive $15,000 for classroom computers and technology. University system will receive $85.8 million (in addition to original appropriation of $33.9 million) for technology and equipment purchases and construction. Title: **Budget Adjustments to Quality Basic Education (QBE) Finance Program** Source: Southern Regional Education Board, *Legislative Report*, May 1995	
IA	LEGIS./CODE Proposed May '95	Sets allowable growth for 1996-97 school year at 3.3% to give school districts $61.4 million in state aid. Provides that state percent of growth for subsequent budget years be set two years out. For example, 1996 legislature will set allowable growth for 1997-98 school year. Also expresses intent of General Assembly that technology/school improvement program be in existence and funds be appropriated for school districts and area education agencies for 1996-97 school year. Title: **SF 460 - Technology** Source: Iowa Senate Democratic Research Staff	
ID	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Appropriates $10.4 million for FY 1996, same as in FY 1995, for technology in public schools. Title: **SB 1223 - Public School Technology** Source: Idaho Legislative Services	
MN	LEGIS./CODE Proposed June '95	Would provide for grants to connect school districts and public libraries to the Internet and the MNnet statewide telecommunications network. Title: **Omnibus Funding Bill** Source: House Ways and Means Committee	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
ND	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	School board, upon approval by majority vote of district electors at any regular or special election, may dedicate tax levy for long-distance learning and educational technology not to exceed five mills on the dollar of taxable valuation of property within district. Educational technology includes computer software, computers and computer networks and other computerized equipment which must be for student instruction. Title: **SB 2159 - District Tuition Agreements, School Term** Author: Committee on Education Source: *StateNet*	
VA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Sets goal to expand access to educational technology by automating public school libraries and networking from libraries to individual classrooms in all schools. Title: **Virginia Omnibus Education Act of 1995** Source: Southern Regional Education Board, *Legislative Report*, May 1995, No. 4	
WI	LEGIS./CODE Proposed June '95	Creates Pioneering Partners Grants and Loans under which school districts, county libraries and municipal libraries, either individually or in conjunction with one another, may apply for grant and/or loan to fund all or portion of distance education or educational technology project. $10 million general purpose revenue funds appropriated for grants in FY 1996-97 and $15 million from State Trust Fund allocated annually for loans in FY 1996-97 through 1992-2000. Applicant may seek one or combination of: (1) grant to fund project; (2) Trust Fund loan and grant to subsidize interest costs generated by first two points of annual interest rate on loan; or (3) Trust Fund loan, not subsidized. Team of consultants also created to assist school districts and libraries with distance education and educational technology. Department of Administration directed to negotiate with private vendors to facilitate purchase of computers and other educational technology by elementary and secondary teachers for personal use as means of encouraging and assisting teachers in becoming knowledgeable about computers and other educational technology. Title: **AB 150, as amended by the Joint Committee on Finance - Technology** Source: Legislative Council Staff	
WV	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Provides $2 million in new funding for 1996 for technology and telecommunications initiatives in elementary and secondary schools. Title: **General Fund Budget for 1996** Source: Southern Regional Education Board, *Legislative Report*, May 1995, No. 4	
TENURE (see TEACHER CONTRACTS)			
TEXTBOOKS			
GA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Provides that state board shall add to list of approved books and aids any book or aid requested by at least five local superintendents or 20 teachers teaching related subjects. Title: **SB 52 - Textbook Approval** Author: Langford Source: *StateNet*	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
		TUITION	
ND	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '94	Relates to uniform accounting and reporting, family transportation, definition of high school student, meetings of county committees regarding tuition hearings, students placed for reasons other than education, and length of school term. If school district does not provide education services to entire grade level, students in that grade may attend public school of their choice, outside their district of residence, with district of residence paying tuition to admitting school district. Student may exercise these provisions even if district of residence ceased to provide required grade level before or after effective date of this act. Public schools must be equally free, open and accessible at all times to children who have reached the age of 6 by midnight August 30 for school districts that do not provide kindergarten or the age of 5 for districts that provide kindergarten; this applies up to age 21. Title: **SB 2159 - District Tuition Agreements, School Term** Author: Committee on Education Source: *StateNet*	
		VOCATIONAL EDUCATION (see WORKFORCE PREPARATION/VOCATIONAL EDUCATION)	
		VOUCHERS	
CA	LEGIS./CODE Proposed April '95	Defeated bill SB 995 would have allowed children in certain overcrowded schools to attend private schools and be reimbursed for tuition by public school district; AB 1290 - major education reform bill, includes vouchers; ACA 15 - companion measure to AB 1290, would establish voucher program if passed by voters; SB 976 - another modified voucher bill. Title: **Vouchers** Source: Association of California School Administrators, "Sacramento Education Legislative Letter," *EDCAL*, April 3, 1995	
IL	LEGIS./CODE Killed March '95	Controversial voucher proposal would have allowed parents in Chicago to use state money to offset cost of tuition at private or parochial schools. Targeted disadvantaged parents in one area who could receive voucher of up to $2,500 to send children to private school. Critics contend bill would consume $5 million in funds that otherwise would be directed to public schools. Title: "Vouchers" Source: *Education Week*, March 15, 1995; *Daily Report Card*, May 15, 1995	
IN	LEGIS./CODE Pending March '95	Establishes nonpublic school choice program for students within Indianapolis Public Schools district. Designates Department of Education as program administrator. Allows eligible students to apply for enrollment at accredited nonpublic elementary or middle schools within Marion County and designated by department as program participants. Title: **SBO640 - Nonpublic School Choice for IPS** Source: Indiana University Education Policy Center	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
MI	LEGIS./CODE Proposed March '95	Proposed constitutional amendment on 1996 ballot would ask voters to repeal ban against using public money for private schools. Religious schools would not be included in proposals. Plan would be phased in over 13 years, beginning in kindergarten and adding grade each year until 12th grade. Title: "Vouchers Are Good" Source: *Daily Report Card*, March 24, 1995	
MO	LEGIS./CODE Proposed May '95	Proposed constitutional amendment would grant annual, nontaxable, scholarships to all school-age Missouri children. Scholarships could be no less than one-half of annual average amount of state and local expenditures per public school student (approximately $3,000 for current fiscal year). Scholarships could be used to pay all or part of cost of education at schools that elect to redeem scholarships. Both public and private schools could become eligible to redeem scholarships by filing statement with State Board of Education indicating school's adherence to certain principles of nondiscrimination and lawful conduct. Resolution requires public school districts to allocate enrollment among schools based upon parental choice. Public schools that do not redeem scholarships, after completing all district enrollments, must accept students regardless of residence until they meet capacity. Schools may count these non-resident students for state-aid purposes. Resolution prohibits General Assembly from enacting regulations applicable to private schools without approval of three-fourths of members, except regulations related to safety and fraud, which may be enacted by two-thirds vote. General Assembly directed to develop and implement process through which public schools may become independent, scholarship-redeeming institutions that operate under regulations no more restrictive than those applicable to private schools that redeem scholarships. Resolution requires legal challenges to any provision of amendment to be initiated within six months of effective date. After six months, amendment's provisions could be challenged only based upon their application. Title: **HJR 1 - School Choice** Author: Rizzo Source: House Research Division	
NC	LEGIS./CODE Proposed April '95	Calls for three-year phase-in of K-12 tuition grants for children to attend nonpublic schools. School-age children of families of four with incomes at 175% of poverty level would be eligible for tuition grants of 75% of per-pupil expenditure for school system where they live (average grant amount of $2,050). Special needs children would receive 100% of per-pupil expenditure for school system where they live (average grant amount of $4,786). For 1996-97, school-age children of higher-income families entering grades 9, 10, 11 and 12 would be eligible to receive tuition grants of 50% of per-pupil expenditure for school system where they live (average grant amount of $1,400). In 1997-98, all remaining children would be eligible for tuition grants of 50% of the per-pupil expenditure for school system where they live (average grant amount of $1,400). Title: "Vouchers Rear Head in General Assembly" Source: North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, *DPI Legislative Review*, April 6, 1995, Vol. XII, No. 12	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
NJ	PROGRAM Active October '94	Experimental school voucher plan for Jersey City, state's second largest school district. Eligibility restricted, but parents who qualify could use vouchers to send children to parochial as well as private schools which opponents fear will undermine public schools and may violate constitutional separation of church and state. State already has taken over Jersey City schools. Title: "No Vouchers for Jersey City" Source: *New York Times*, October 20, 1994	
OH	LEGIS./CODE Passed April '95	Voucher plan would help pay tuition for Cleveland students at private and religious schools. Being considered as part of budget proposal by House Republican leadership, bill would provide $5.25 million for pilot project. Generated storms of protests, with opponents falling short in efforts to kill the bill during floor debate. Amendment to delete voucher program was defeated. Passed as pilot program for Cleveland. Title: "Ohio House Approves Voucher Bill Targeting Cleveland Schools Source: *Education Week*, April 12, 1995	
OR	LEGIS./CODE Killed June '95	Would have created statewide school voucher system. No vote taken before consigned to legislative limbo, making it difficult to tell how much support exists. Would have given students vouchers or "portable scholarships" for use at private schools, equal to half funds state spends on each public school student. State's current per-pupil expenditure is $5,018 per year. Supporters expected to revive proposal in 1997 legislative session. Title: "No Voucher Vote" Source: *Education Week*, June 7, 1995	
PA	LEGIS./CODE Proposed March '95	Statewide school voucher program would help pay for children to attend private and religious schools. Governor's budget would make vouchers available throughout Pennsylvania within three years to parents who met certain income requirements. Title: "Voucher Program for Pennsylvania" Source: *Education Week*, March 15, 1995	
PR	LEGIS./CODE Enacted September '93	Established $1,500 per-child government credit for families making under $18,000 per year to allow children to attend public or private school of their choice (including religious schools). Teacher's union challenged program under provisions of Puerto Rico and U.S. constitutions. Puerto Rico judge struck down plan based on Puerto Rico constitutional provisions barring government from aiding private schools. Title: **SB 399 (No. 71) - Vouchers** Source: Legislative Services Division	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
WI	LEGIS./CODE Proposed June '91	Would amend Milwaukee Parental Choice Program, which allows low-income elementary and secondary students to attend, at no cost, participating nonsectarian private school in city. Changes include: (1) expanding program to include sectarian schools and exempting from participation in religious activities any student whose parent requests exemption in writing; (2) increasing limit on number of pupils who may participate from 1.5% of Milwaukee Public Schools enrollment (approximately 1,450 pupils in 1994-95) to 7% in 1995-96 (approximately 7,000 pupils) and 15% thereafter (approximately 15,000 pupils); (3) repealing current 65% limitation on percentage of participating private school's enrollment that may consist of Milwaukee Parental Choice Program pupils; (4) allowing pupils who, in previous school year, were enrolled in grades kindergarten-3 in LOCAL private schools to participate in program (current law excludes such pupils unless enrolled in private school under Choice Program); (5) providing for acceptance of siblings of pupils accepted on random basis; (6) changing method of payment so check would be made out to pupil's parent or guardian who then must endorse check over to private school (rather than making payment to private school). NOTE: In 1995, state tried to expand program to include religious schools, but courts granted injunction, saying the program cannot be expanded to religious schools without crossing the constitutional line between church and state. Title: **AB 150, as amended by the Joint Committee on Finance - Choice** Source: Legislative Council Staff	09/04/93
		WORKFORCE PREPARATION/VOCATIONAL EDUCATION	
AR	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	Appropriates $4 million to Industrial Development Commission for incentives for workforce skill upgrade programs in existing industries, $250,000 from Higher Education Grants Fund, $3.75 million from General Improvement Fund. Title: **SB 782 - Workforce Preparation Funding** Author: Committee on Joint Budget Source: *StateNet*	

State	Status	Summary	Effective Date
TX	LEGIS./CODE Enacted April '95	From Workforce and Economic Competitiveness Act, created Texas Council on Workforce and Economic Competitiveness (TCWEC), human-resource investment council. TCWEC charged with coordinating workforce-development programs, operations and budgeting through development of single statewide strategic plan. TCWEC guiding state-level policy to produce school-to-work system and promote and facilitate legislatively mandated outcomes, including: components of school-to-work transition process; comprehensive labor market information system; industry-based skills standards and certification system; optional workforce development board to coordinate education and training programs at local and regional levels; and statewide system for evaluating effectiveness of all workforce development programs. TCWEC designating operational plans for these outcomes through series of competitive contracts in six areas: (a) targeting work-based learning; (b) employer incentives and technical assistance; (c) liaison/brokering system; (d) skill standards and certification; (e) marketing and outreach; and (f) curriculum and professional development. Title: "Texas Council on Workforce and Economic Competitiveness (TCWEC)" Source: Jobs for the Future, *School to Work News*, Winter/Spring '95	
VA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '95	Authorizes local school boards to establish transition programs to prepare students for college, employment or technical training. Title: **School-to-Work Transition** Source: Virginia General Assembly 1995 Session Summary	
VA	LEGIS./CODE Enacted March '95	Requires school boards to establish school-to-work transition for students enrolled in public schools in grades 5-12. Title: **SB 991 - School to Work Transition** Author: Miller Source: *StateNet*	
VT	LEGIS./CODE Enacted May '94	Authorizes technical education regional advisory boards to approve student apprenticeship programs in secondary schools within their regions. Program would be up to four years in length and provide academic and applied courses in school as well as paid apprenticeship work with employer who would serve as work-site mentor to students. To graduate from student apprenticeship program, student would demonstrate mastery of academic and occupation-specific industry competency standards developed by State Board of Education in collaboration with related business or trade organizations. Student graduating from such program would be eligible to enter postsecondary institution for further training, registered apprenticeship program or workforce in position above entry level. Title: **S 222 - Approval of Student Apprenticeship Programs** Source: Summary of Acts and Resolutions	05/17/94

Education Commission of the States
707 17th Street, Suite 2700
Denver, Colorado 80202-3427
303-299-3600
FAX: 303-296-8332
e-mail: ecs@ecs.org

BEST COPY AVAILABLE